Military says it has located Abu, hostages

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BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

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LAGOT KA PAGBALIK MO!

Mike shoots, Senate probes

By C. Yamsuan And C. Avendaño

KUALA Lumpur (via PLDT)—He was not shooting from the lip. Mr. Mike Arroyo was shooting with his Nikon F60 camera as soon as the President's official

MIKE/ A15

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Mayon acts up again** ACROSS / A11
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Lacson gives Corpus authority to withdraw

Ping sees Palace hand in exposé

By Armand N. Nocum and Michael Lim Ubac

SEN. Panfilo Lacson is authorizing military intelligence chief Col. Victor Corpus to withdraw the supposed hundreds of millions of dollars that the senator is alleged to have deposited in banks abroad.

At an impromptu news briefing yesterday, Lacson showed reporters a copy of a special power of attorney authorizing Corpus to withdraw all the amounts in the alleged bank accounts in the United States, Hong Kong and Canada. Lacson said he would send his lawyer Sigfrid Fortun to accompany Corpus abroad.

"If he finds anything, if he can withdraw (the money), I will advise him to go to the national treasury and donate the same," Lacson said. "(Then) I'll pack my things and go straight to jail."

But Sen. Renato Cayetano pointed out a procedural lapse in the special power of attorney that Lacson issued.

"Normally, the power of attorney is issued at the time you make the deposit, not after," Cayetano said, adding that the document was likely to be questioned by the banks.

Sen. Luisa Ejercito, ousted President Joseph Estrada's wife, also said she was going to issue a special power of attorney to allow Corpus to withdraw the $180 million she was reportedly keeping in a Hong Kong bank.

She said she would send her chief of staff, lawyer Rufus Rodriguez, to

LACSON/ A14

American, Canadian authorities still looking

By TJ Burgonio

THE CITIBANK regional office in Singapore said its search yielded negative results, but American and Canadian embassy officials said their search was continuing.

A military intelligence exposé on the alleged foreign bank accounts of Sen. Panfilo Lacson has sparked a hunt for his reported mind-boggling fortune in three countries.

"A search of Canadian, Hong Kong and US records have not identified the account names and numbers reported in the Inquirer," Penn Shone, Citibank regional corporate affairs director in Singapore, said in press statement.

Asked by the Inquirer over the telephone if the press statement meant that the alleged bank accounts did not exist, Shone said: "Please refer to the statement."

Col. Victor Corpus, head of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, said in a report that Lacson was keeping at least $211 million in eight specified Citibank accounts in the United States, Hong Kong and Canada.

Corpus also said Lacson's wife Alice, ousted President Joseph Estrada and Sen. Loi Ejercito had likewise stashed millions in separate Citibank accounts.

Senators Lacson and Ejercito, however, denied owning such accounts. Lacson said Corpus merely concocted the bank account numbers as part of the Macapagal administration's "demolition job" on him.

Even so, an official of the Canadian Embassy in Manila said his government was looking into the report.

"We're also conducting inquiries with other Canadian authorities," Robert Burley, the embassy's third secretary on political and economic relations, told the Inquirer in an interview.

But Burley said the inquiry was still at the information gathering stage.

'We're gathering information ourselves," he said.

Like the United States, Canada has an existing treaty on mutual legal assistance on criminal mat-

AMERICAN/ A14

Red carpet for Gloria; peace deal inked in KL

By Cathy C. Yamsuan

KUALA LUMPUR (via PLDT)—Malaysia yesterday rolled out the red carpet for President Macapagal-Arroyo on the first day of her state visit highlighted by the signing of a ceasefire pact between Manila and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Philippine and MILF negotiators signed the pact at Putrajaya, Malaysia's new administrative capital just outside Kuala Lumpur. The MILF also sealed a unity accord with the Moro National Liberation Front, bridging a 23-year split.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid, who earlier welcomed Ms Macapagal and her 90-member delegation at the airport, quoted her as saying that the two pacts made her three-day visit "fulfilling and satisfying."

She was immediately whisked to Parliament Square upon her arrival where she was given a full-scale ceremonial welcome by the Malaysian king, Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah, and Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad.

Wearing an elegant sky-blue dress and knee-length coat, Ms Macapagal inspected an honor guard of the Royal Malay Regiment before meeting Cabinet min-

RED/ A15

Housing loans for OFWs raised to ₱2M

By Cathy C. Yamsuan

KUALA LUMPUR (via PLDT)—A Filipina housekeeping supervisor at the New World Hotel here will be one of the first recipients of an improved housing loan program from the Philippine government.

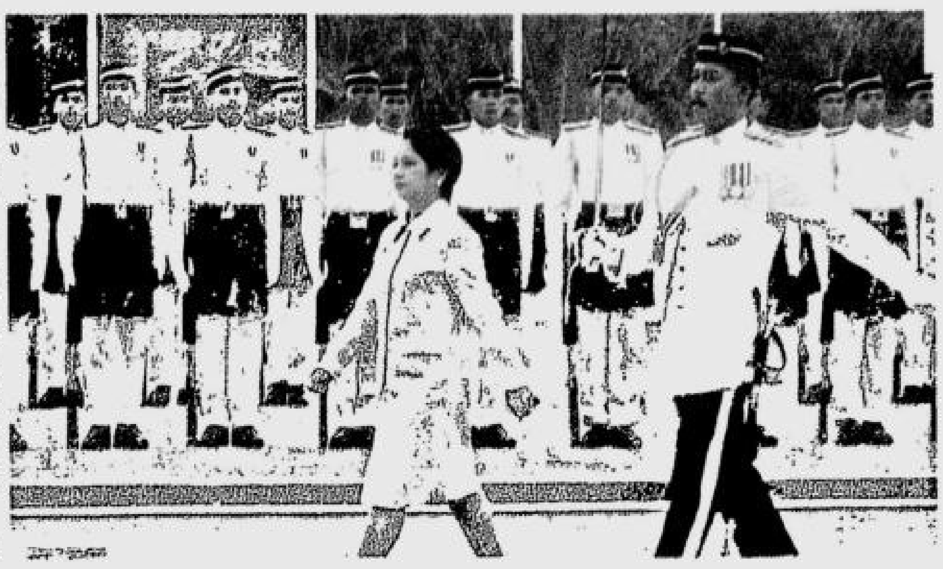
Like most other overseas Filipino workers, Narissa Dangaran dreams of owning a house back home.

Tonight, President Macapagal-Arroyo, who is here on a three-day state visit, will award to Darangan and 14 other Malaysia-based OFWs housing loans of up to P2 million each.

The loan is part of the new program of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) that grants loans of up to P2 million for Filipino OFWs and overseas permanent residents.

HUDCC Secretary Michael De-

HOUSING/ A14



THE FIRST state visit of President Macapagal brings her to Malaysia for three days where shortly after her arrival on Tuesday, she's escorted (above) by Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad to his office where the two leaders hold their one-on-one talk. Guard of honor stands at attention (at right) when President Macapagal arrives at Parliament House in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur.

AP/MALACAÑANG PHOTO

'Do we want another criminal in Malacañang?'

Corpus defends Lacson probe

By Carlito Pablo and Christine Herrera

"DO we want another criminal for a President?"

Military intelligence chief Col. Victor Corpus yesterday raised this question over ABS-CBN News Channel in the course of defending the government's investigation of the alleged money-laundering activities of Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

Corpus said that since President Macapagal-Arroyo tapped the help of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in the campaign against organized crime, the Isafp had received reports linking Lacson to such crimes as drug trafficking and kidnapping for ransom.

He said he was taking "full responsibility" for his disclosure that Lacson was holding hundreds of millions of dollars in bank accounts in the United States, Hong Kong and Canada.

According to Corpus, it was in the context of Lacson's supposed plan to run for president in 2004 and alleged links to crime syndicates that he described the senator as a "threat to national security."

He reiterated that he was willing to disclose before the Senate more details regarding Lacson's alleged money-laundering activities.

Col. Mario Chan, leader of the police-military intelligence team that gathered information on Lacson's alleged dollar accounts abroad, said US authorities had provided "more than enough evidence" to warrant a government-to-government effort to recover the senator's supposed hidden wealth.

Emerging from a meeting with US authorities in a San Francisco hotel last June, Chan told the Inquirer that the US-RP teams had agreed on how the recovered wealth would be shared in accordance with the Rico (Racketeering-Influenced

DO/ A14

MARCOS LOOT

PCGG missing Monet, Degas . . .

By Blanche S. Rivera

LOST: Paintings by Monet, Degas, Klee once owned by the Marcoses. If found please contact the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG).

At least 20 paintings with an estimated value of around $1 million each had been "lost" since they were sequestered by the PCGG after the fall of the Marcos family in 1986.

Newly installed PCGG Chair Haydee Yorac said the PCGG discovered the absence of the paintings, which are collected in the world's finest museums, in the course of the ongoing inventory that she ordered after she took over the agency last month.

The PCGG recently recovered a Picasso original, titled "Head of a Woman," which was also sequestered after the 1986 first Edsa people power revolt that ousted the Marcoses.

The Picasso painting, valued at $1 million, is now in the custody of the US District Court of Hawaii, which had awarded $2 billion in compensation to the nearly 10,000 Marcos human rights victims.

"That's only one. Imagine Monet, Degas and Klee paintings. They're more expensive than the buildings (from where they were seized)! I don't know how much (they would cost now)," Yorac said.

She said the PCGG was now working to recover the paintings by French impressionists Claude Monet, famous for his water lily series and Edgar Degas, best known for his paintings of ballet dancers and Swiss Paul Klee, who was celebrated for the child-like qualities of his work. Their works were seized from the Marcoses' residences in the United States.

"They were recovered and then

PCGG/ A14

Second FRONT PAGE

DALI!!!!! SUGPUIN NA!

House probers going to Basilan

By Rocky Nazareno

TO SEE is to believe.

This is how the House committee on national defense plans to investigate the military's performance against the Abu Sayyaf bandits. And that is why committee members plan to fly to Basilan soon to conduct the committee's first public hearing there.

This was disclosed yesterday by the committee chair, Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay, who said that his committee "will place immediate priority on an investigation of the circumstances behind the Abu Sayyaf's recent successful attack on Basilan."

According to Pichay, the hearing would most likely take place within the next two weeks in Lamitan town, which had been under heavy siege from the armed bandit group.

"We want to know why this situation is not yet resolved even with all the firepower we have unleashed," Pichay said.

He added that it was "the duty of the committee to find out and investigate the truth" regarding military operations in Basilan.

Pichay said the committee will also verify reports that the Abu Sayyaf forces have been aided by sympathetic elements within the military itself, enabling the bandit group to slip through the tight cordon thrown around their lair in the jungles of Basilan.

"Why there?" a committee member asked.

But the congressman, who asked not to be named, was quick to add: "But then again, if it will be for the good of our campaign against banditry in the province. I don't see any problem with that."

Neophyte Rep. Ted Failon of Leyte, another committee member, said he was in favor of holding the hearing in Basilan because "it will show that there is action in Congress."

Camiguin Rep. Jurdin Jesus Romualdo said he was interested in seeing for himself "why the military campaign has failed to arrest the terror sown by only 500 armed bandits."

Military says it has located Abu, hostages

ZAMBOANGA CITY—The military yesterday said it had fixed the location of Abu Sayyaf gunmen holding two Americans and 19 Filipinos after the kidnap group beheaded 10 other hostages last weekend.

A senior commander, speaking on condition of anonymity, said troops were tracking the bandits on Basilan island but could not strike at them for fear of injuring captives who include American missionary couple Martin and Gracia Burnham.

The official would not give details saying this might compromise the operation. The guerrillas had been on the move constantly to keep from being pinned down by the military, the official added.

Maj. Alberto Gepilano, spokesman of military forces in Basilan said troops clashed with an Abu Sayyaf unit in Tuburan town on Monday, killing one rebel.

Several skirmishes also broke out in different areas of Basilan but there were no other reports of casualties, Gepilano said.

The pursuit of the Abu Sayyaf has gained added momentum after the armed group raided the town of Lamitan last weekend, briefly taking a number of Christian villagers hostage and beheading 10 of them.

Crackdown

National Security Adviser Roilo Golez said President Macapagal-Arroyo met her Cabinet on Monday to discuss the protection of local villagers. She left for a state visit to Malaysia early yesterday.

"The intensified crackdown will continue," Golez said, referring to a military campaign launched last month to arrest suspected Abu Sayyaf supporters. Troops have detained 130 people so far, he added.

The raid on Lamitan is widely considered as retaliation for the arrests.

Golez said the Cabinet also agreed on the need to increase the number of government militiamen—local villagers armed and trained by the military—to safeguard the residents of Basilan.

Guarding town center

Military spokesman Gen. Edilberto Adan admitted in a radio interview in Manila that the Abu Sayyaf "slipped by us" in the Lamitan raid as troops were concentrating on guarding the town center and not the villages on the outskirts.

"It was hard to notice due to the distance and the darkness," Adan said, adding that the closest militia detachment to the raided district was 1.5 km away.

"We cannot guard every village," Adan said.

To remedy this, Basilan will need 24 companies of government militiamen in Basilan, with each company consisting of 88 men, Adan said.

He said the military was already training 11 companies with the first six of these due to graduate in September.

The Abu Sayyaf, self-styled Islamic independence fighters, who are notorious for kidnapping foreigners and Christians, went on a new kidnapping spree in May, seizing three Americans and 17 Filipinos from the upmarket Dos Palmas resort in Palawan.

They freed several of the Filipino hostages after alleged payments of ransoms, but seized more people in two Basilan raids in June.

Apart from the 10 men they beheaded over the weekend, the rebels also killed four other Filipinos last month and claimed to have executed Californian Guillermo Sobero.

The military presumes Sobero is dead, although his remains have not been found. *AFP*

Abu Sayyaf camp yields explosives

ISABELA CITY—Government troops recovered three sacks full of chemicals used in the making of explosives from an Abu Sayyaf lair in Barangay Upper Kapayawan here yesterday.

Col. Hermogenes Esperon Jr., chief of Task Force Thunder, said the chemicals—sulfur and potassium chlorate—found abandoned among some bushes in Camp Al Medina were "very powerful" and would have been enough to blow up three military trucks.

Camp Al Medina was a stronghold of the Abu Sayyaf during the time of Abdurajak Janjalani, the slain founder of the group and the brother of its current leader, Khadaffy Janjalani.

Esperon said he believes Janjalani and his spokesperson Abu Ahmad Salayuddin, alias Abu Sabaya, were still "within the Sampinit complex."

"With the presence of our troops here, their movements are quite limited now," he said.

But Esperon admitted that the "rugged terrain and the bad weather" made it very difficult for the troops to locate the bandits who abducted 30 residents of Barangay Balobo in Lamitan on Aug. 2.

Of the 30 hostages, 10 were killed, 15 were freed, three escaped while two others remain missing.

Maj. Reynaldo Ordoñez, chief of the 10th Infantry Battalion, said government troops have to cover around 4 sq. km. of rugged terrain where "there are around 10 creeks." Esperon said each creek could serve as a hiding place for at least 30 bandits.

"We are pursuing the group led by Khadaffy who was reportedly responsible in the Balobo raid," Esperon said.

He said that based on the description given by the released hostages, it was Khadaffy who led the group that raided Barangay Balobo.

In Zamboanga City, AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Diomedio Villanueva yesterday appealed to the public to spare the soldiers involved in the operations against the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan from criticism.

"Everybody knows the soldiers are sweating it out and are dying in the field just to comply with their mission. Let's give them the respect they deserve," Villanueva said.

"If our soldiers are always being criticized, they will feel demoralized. We should encourage them positively," he said.

Justice Undersecretary Jose Calida was also in Zamboanga City yesterday to check on the progress of the cases against the arrested Abu Sayyaf suspects.

"The government will see to it that all the guilty parties will be punished for the crimes they have committed, particularly against innocent civilians," Calida said. ***Julie Alipala-Inot and Jonathan F. Ma, PDI Mindanao***

Developer vows to finish building Garcia museum

By Doris C. Dumlao

PROPERTY developer Megaworld Corp. yesterday said it would complete the construction of the museum to house the memorabilia of the late President Carlos P. Garcia in time for his 103rd birth anniversary on Nov. 4.

In an interview yesterday, Luke Tan, Megaworld's director for investor relations, said the company was "on track" in its commitments to the heirs of the late President.

He said Megaworld was going out of its way to construct the museum, which he said was not part of the original agreement.

"The museum that will house the memorabilia of the late President Carlos P. Garcia is a concession that we have granted Garcia's heirs as our way of honoring his memory," Tan said.

He claimed that Megaworld's agreement with the Leonila Realty and Development Corp. did not provide for the building of a museum for the late President.

"The LRDC merely asked us to convert one of the units that formed part of its share in the project into a museum for the Garcia memorabilia," he explained.

Garcia's heirs, led by son-in-law Fernando C. Campos, have complained about the delay in the construction of the museum.

Campos, who is president of Leonila Realty and Development Corp., also complained that Megaworld has jacked up the cost of the project.

LRDC and Megaworld entered into a joint venture agreement on 1997 to develop the 4,000 sq. m. Garcia property on Sgt. Esguerra St. and Bohol Avenue in Quezon City into a condominium complex.

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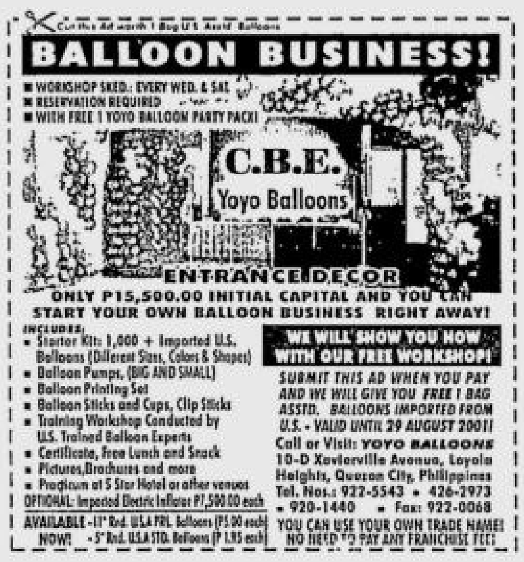
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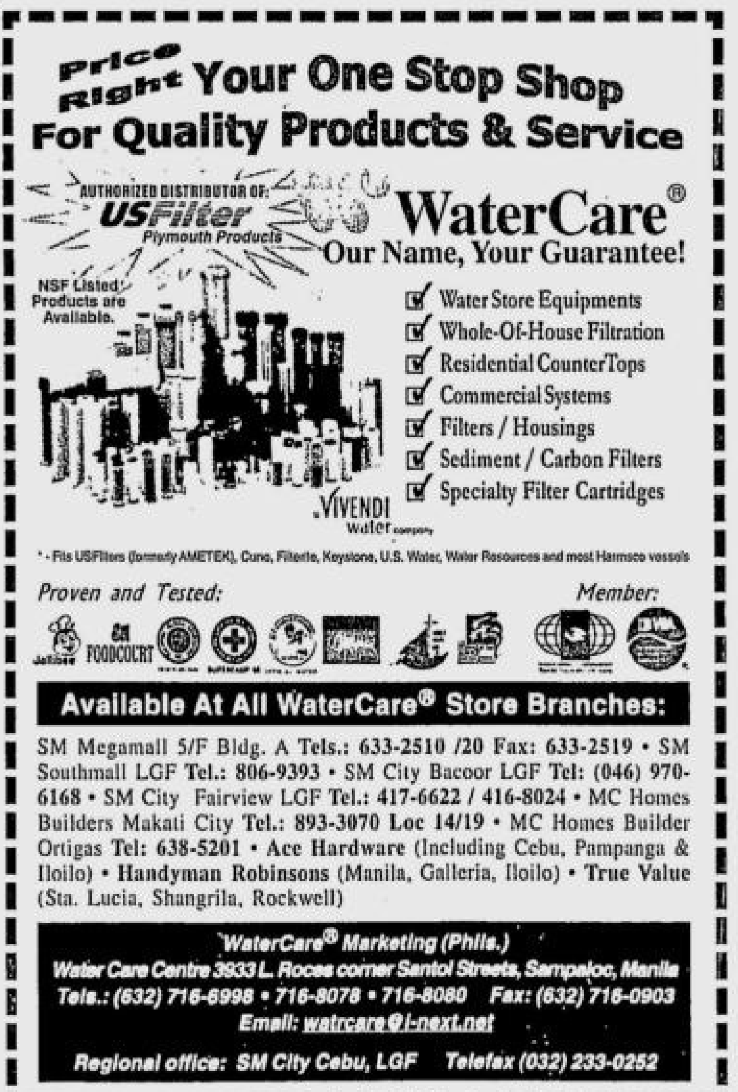
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Serge filibusters, stalls Senate probe on Lacson

By CHRISTINE AVENDAÑO

A TWO-HOUR-LONG "filibuster" by administration candidate-turned-oppositionist Sen. Sergio Osmeña III yesterday blocked a Senate majority bid to organize some 26 committees, including the blue ribbon committee tasked with the investigation of illegal wealth charges against opposition Sen. Panfilo Lacson.

"For what purpose, that is for the public to decide," commented Senate President Franklin Drilon of Osmeña's performance.

Osmeña launched into his speech as soon as nominations for the blue ribbon committee chairmanship was opened, questioning for almost two hours the Senate rules on committee chairmanships, among others.

Drilon described Osmeña's antics as being "clearly a filibuster," which was done "to prevent us from organizing the committees."

He said the result was that "we are not able to proceed with the organization of the important committee which would start to investigate the allegations against Sen. Lacson."

Earlier yesterday, Drilon had told reporters that the Senate would be naming the 26 committee chairmanships that would go to the majority bloc. He said the opposition had not posed any objection to this.

"That was the representation to me yesterday. Apparently something happened afterwards," Drilon said.

"The minority seems to be hell bent on not allowing the committees to be organized," he said at one point.

In his speech, Osmeña raised several questions on the committee chairmanship issue, particularly why two top officers of the Senate—the Senate president pro tempore and the majority leader—were given chairmanships.

He was referring to Senate President Pro Tempore Manuel Villar, who was given the chairmanship of the banks and agriculture committees, and Senate Majority Leader Loren Legarda, who chairs the accounts and rules committees.

But Osmeña often digressed from the issue, at one point lashing out at the majority bloc for its "silence" on the alleged bribery case involving First Gentleman Mike Arroyo.

Osmeña said his Senate colleagues were very good at attacking Lacson but were silent on Arroyo.

Osmeña later told reporters he just wanted to raise questions on the Senate rules which he claimed were being violated and planned to do so again today when the Senate resumes its session and the committee chairmanship nominations.

Appointment of media men to gov't posts hit

By ARMAND N. NOCUM

OPPOSITION Sen. Edgardo Angara yesterday said he will soon make public a list of columnists and reporters who were reportedly appointed to various government posts under the Macapagal administration.

In an interview, Angara said such appointments to boards of government corporations clearly puts members of the press into a "conflict of interest" situation.

"Newsmen in boards of government corporations—there's a conflict of interest. They should take leaves of absence from their positions," he said.

He asked newsmen to be mindful of their need to be independent and neutral.

He said press organizations like the National Press Club and the Philippine Press Institute should exercise "self policing" to keep the integrity of their members untarnished.

According to him, an insider in the Macapagal administration has promised to give him the list.

Militants want P500 a day

By G. LACUARTA

IN YET another discordant voice in the fractious labor movement, the Partido ng Manggagawa yesterday said it would push for the scrapping of the wage boards and the legislation of a P500 "living" wage.

The PM, an affiliate of the militant Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino, said it was supporting the House Bill 1377 or the Living Wage Bill filed by Albay Rep. Kristel Luistro-Lagman, which fixes the living wage as the minimum wage.

Renato Magtubo, PM chair, nevertheless called on all labor groups, from the moderates to the militants, to "unite in a single and unified struggle for the living wage."

"Our demands will be met not on the force of reason alone but on the strength of a unified labor front," Magtubo said.

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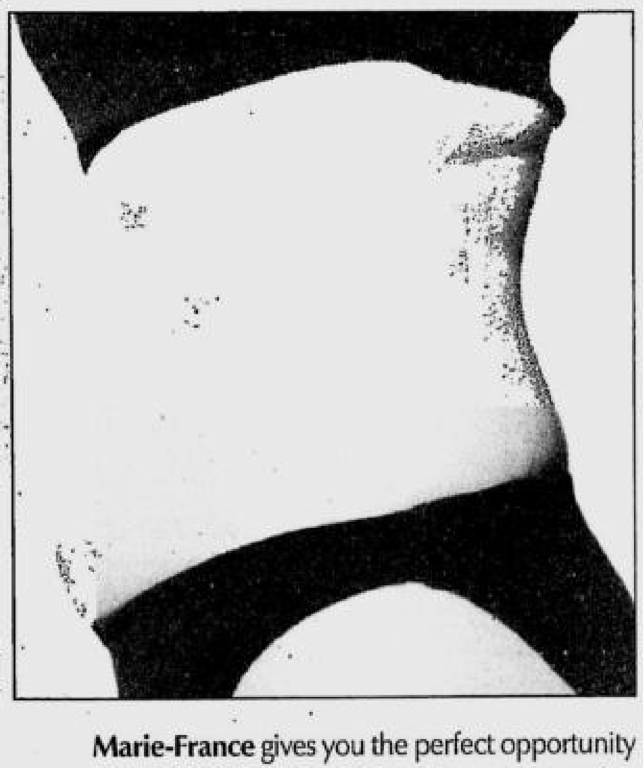

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Erap wants to waive court appearance

By Donna S. Cueto

OUSTED President Joseph Estrada yesterday asked the Sandiganbayan that he be allowed to avoid a court appearance for his perjury trial scheduled in October.

Estrada's lawyers said the jailed ex-president did not need to be pointed out in open court, or identified by witnesses, as he had already affirmed that he was the accused in the perjury case.

"He unqualifiedly admits that he is the person on the dock and manifests clearly and indubitably that whenever a witness mentions a name by which he is identified in the caption, the witness is referring to him and to no one else," the lawyers said in an omnibus manifestation filed yesterday.

The lawyers said Estrada himself would confirm this in time, in writing or in open court.

They said that Estrada's non-appearance in court would also mean "savings for the taxpayer considering how much each deployment of manpower costs him."

The trial of the perjury case is set for Oct. 29 to 31.

The Sandiganbayan has to make elaborate security preparations whenever Estrada appears in court. A contingent of police and military personnel is spread in and around the anti-graft court building to ensure that there would be no mayhem, and to prevent attempts to sabotage the event.

Earlier, after his pre-trial conference at the Sandiganbayan on Aug. 2, Estrada said he was willing to appear in court during the trial dates.

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Naia night flights diverted to Clark from Nov. to May

CLARK SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE—International and domestic flights arriving at and departing from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport between midnight and 7 a.m. will be diverted to the Clark International Airport here starting Nov. 1 until May next year.

The Naia is resorting to the temporary scheme to give it time to repair its runway, according to Emmanuel Angeles, president and chief operating officer of the Clark Development Corp.

In the last four years, Naia has used Clark, rated Category 9 or the highest for emergency services, as an alternative landing facility, Angeles said.

The 2,500-hectare Clark airport, with two 3,200-meter long runways, used to be the largest air force installation of the United States in the Asia-Pacific region until 1991 when the Senate kicked out the US bases from the country.

Damaged by Mt. Pinatubo's eruptions but rehabilitated by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority, Clark airport's existing navigational aids and communication systems are now classified Category 1 in line with a government plan to make it the country's premier international gateway, Angeles said.

He said the CDC and the Clark International Airport Corp., both government-owned, have begun their preparations to handle flights and to accommodate passengers from the Naia.

At least seven international flights are expected nightly at the Clark airport.

Temporary diversion

Angeles said the temporary diversion of flights offers the Clark airport, largely idle during the Estrada administration, "a chance to prove its capability."

The six-month scheme also offers economic benefits to the transport and tourism sectors in Northern Philippines, he said.

With Clark as landing point, the scheme will be most convenient to returning overseas Filipino workers who are mostly residents of Northern and Central Luzon provinces, he added.

Also in November, the Atlanta-based courier giant United Parcel Services (UPS) will start its five-cargo flights nightly to Asia via Clark where it is setting up a P500-million Asian hub.

The package delivery giant is building here a computerized sorting warehouse in preparation for its Asian operations starting January 2002.

Charles Adams, UPS Asia Pacific president, said in a statement that the "Philippines' central position in the region makes it possible for cargo aircraft to reach all major Asian cities in less than four hours."

Adams said UPS' location at Clark would help the courier "dramatically improve its delivery services." *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

Dick aims higher

By Norman Bordadora

DESPITE persistent political and security problems, the tourism department has doubled its earnings target to $13 billion, with ambitions of dislodging overseas employment as the country's top foreign exchange earner by next year.

Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon said the new target is roughly equivalent to the total amount of remittances by the country's seven million overseas contract workers deployed around the world.

"If we achieve this figure through tourism alone—and this is quite possible if we get our act together—our countrymen will no longer need to go abroad for employment and income," Gordon said.

Gordon cited the case of Portugal, which used to send thousands of its nationals to work in other countries to prop up its economy but immediately stopped the practice after tourists started pouring in.

Substitute

"The substitution of tourism as a support base for the economy would make it unnecessary (for Filipinos) to go abroad just to earn a decent living," Gordon said.

He cited Department of Labor and Employment projections showing that as many as one million Filipinos would be forced to work abroad by the end of 2001 as a result of the country's economic woes, particularly the peso's continued downward spiral.

"We should develop our tourism industry so that foreigners will come to us, not the other way around," Gordon said.

He said the $13 million target of the DOT was double the $6.5 million earnings posted by the department in 2000. He said the target can be attained through active promotion of local hotels, transportation services, scenic spots and such commercial establishments as restaurants and gift shops.

Abused

A recent study by the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration showed that a significant number of overseas Filipino workers suffer sexual, physical and mental abuse from their foreign employers.

Many overseas workers have also been accused of theft and other crimes.

Gordon said the Owwa study reported the increasing disintegration of the Filipino family because of the prolonged employment of OFWs overseas.

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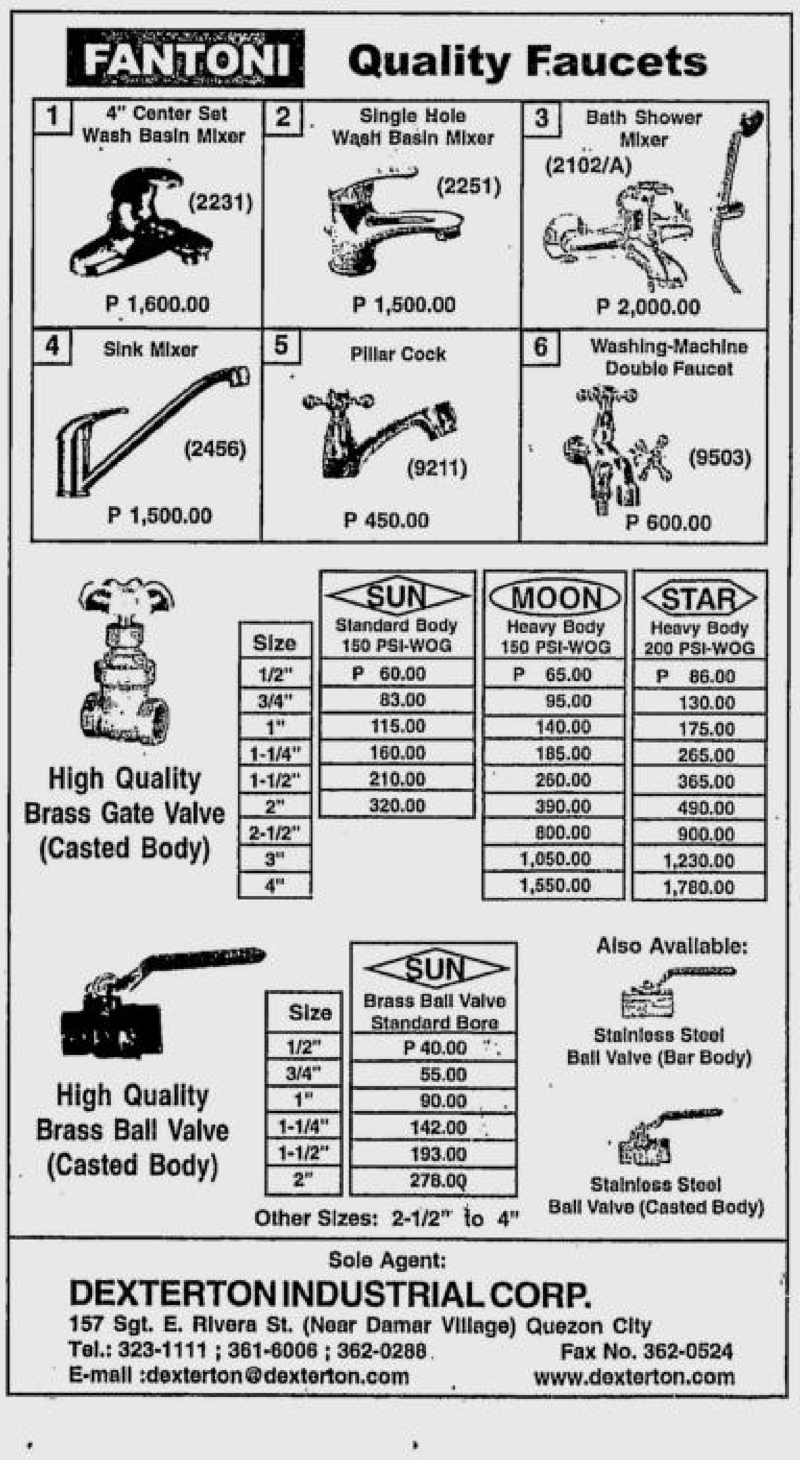

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Condoms acceptable vs AIDS, says Jesuit

By Norman Bordadora

AN AMERICAN Jesuit theologian says it is morally acceptable for sexual partners to use condoms if only to prevent them from contracting HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

What the Catholic Church objects to is contraception and not the use of rubber prophylactics or condoms per se, explained Fr. James Keenan, S.J., who teaches moral theology at the Ateneo de Manila University's Loyola School of Theology.

"(Catholicism) is not against condoms for HIV but condoms for contraception," Keenan said at a media forum sponsored by the AIDS Society of the Philippines.

Keenan put forward the theological principles of double effect and lesser evil in upholding the moral acceptability of condom use, especially among married partners.

"Condoms for HIV are the same condoms for contraception. Here we can see the principle of double effect. It is the same principle applied (for the moral acceptability of) the use of painkillers and the bombing of military installations," Keenan said.

Side effects

The priest was referring to the side effects of painkillers and the innocent lives lost whenever military targets are bombed during air raids.

Regarding the application of the principle of lesser evil, Keenan said he was concerned about the prevention of the transmission of the virus to the wives.

"If a husband violates his marital vows and sleeps with other women he must make sure that he does not transmit the virus to his wife, else he would be violating the principle of justice," Keenan said.

"This is where the principle of lesser evil comes in. If a husband is violating his marital vows, he might as well keep his wife from getting the virus when they engage in sexual intercourse through the use of condoms," he said.

Keenan said that even the Pope's own adviser on theology, Bishop George Courtier, head of the International Council on Theology, considered the question of lesser evil in the use of condoms and virus transmission as a legitimate issue.

The AIDS Society of the Philippines said that 36 million people worldwide have been infected by HIV since it was discovered some 10 years ago and 22 million have died since.

In the Philippines, 1,500 people have been infected and 250 have died.

The society believes that the low rate of condom use is one of the factors behind the large number of AIDS and HIV sufferers in the country.

Condom use urged, but...

Keenan said that he was arguing for condom use not to convince the Catholic Church to relax its strict rule against the use of prophylactics but to contribute to a healthy dialogue on the subject.

He said he has yet to discuss his position with officials of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

Keena has just finished editing a collection of essays written by 37 internationally renowned Catholic moral theologians on the issue of HIV/AIDS prevention and how Catholic moral tradition can mediate in the clash of values in HIV and AIDS prevention.

The book, entitled "Catholic Ethicists on HIV/AIDS Prevention," will be launched this month at the Ateneo.

The South African Catholic Bishops Conference issued a statement in July offering the narrowest of exceptions on condom use to help cope with the country's extremely high rate of HIV and AIDS incidence.

While the CBCP has yet to revoke its "blanket ban" on the use of condoms, the SACBC said married couples could use condoms if one or both partners are infected and if they abstained from sex when the woman was ovulating.

Merged drug firms deny union busting

PHARMACEUTICAL giants Glaxo Wellcome Philippines and Smithkline Beecham have denied accusations by one of their labor unions of alleged unfair labor practices and union busting by a new management team tasked to oversee the impending merger of the two firms.

Noel Isberto, vice president for corporate affairs of Glaxo Wellcome, said the management of the two pharmaceutical companies had been consulting with the unions and staff since the beginning of the year regarding a reorganization to be undertaken as part of the international merger of Glaxo Wellcome and Smithkline Beecham.

Also to be merged locally with the two firms is the smaller Duncan Pharmaceuticals Inc.

"As in any merger, there are affected employees, from both management and staff in the merging companies," Isberto said. "But there is no truth to the claim that new policies were implemented without consulting employees."

Isberto also denied accusations made by the Sandigan ng Kawani Filipino sa Smithkline that management was attempting to bust the union. He said all unions in both Glaxo Wellcome, Smithkline Beecham, and Duncan will continue to exist.

Consultation

Isberto said the three unions being consulted were PLUM Federation of Industrial and Agrarian Workers (Glaxo Wellcome Chapter), Duncan Association of Detailmen and Philippine Transport and General Workers Organization (Duncan), and Sandigan ng Kawani Filipino sa Smithkline Beecham.

Isberto confirmed that the Smithkline Beecham representative office in the Philippines had issued an order for the "cessation of pharmaceutical field force operations" to its 180 medical representatives. He said the medical representatives should be terminated at the end of the month but may be re-hired under the merged Glaxo Smithkline (GSK) company.

"The reorganization, which involves integrating the operations of both companies particularly on the pharmaceutical side of the business, is still going on," Isberto said.

Isberto said under the merger, the Philippine branch of Smithkline shall concentrate company resources on manufacturing and phase out its pharmaceutical field force operations.

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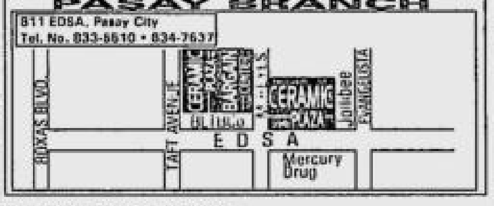

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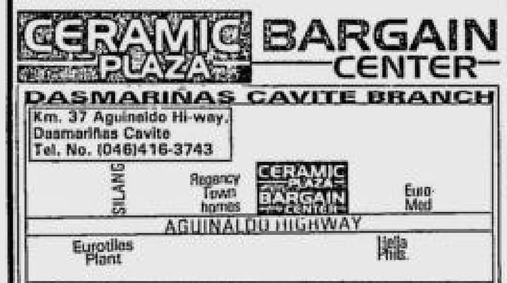

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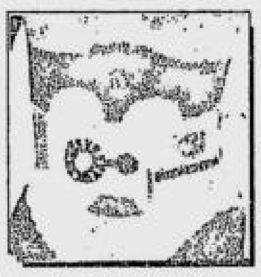

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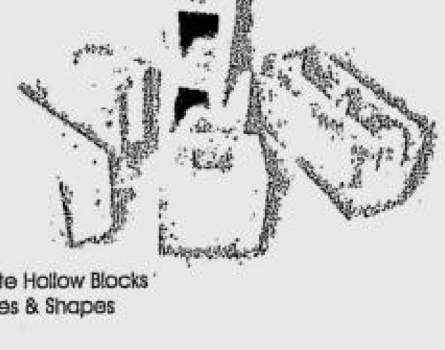

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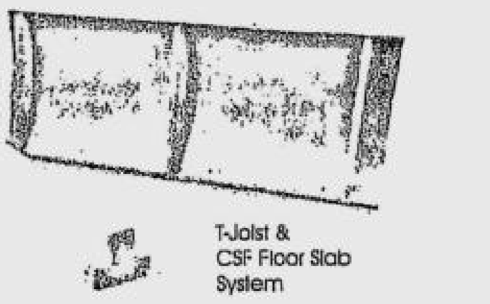

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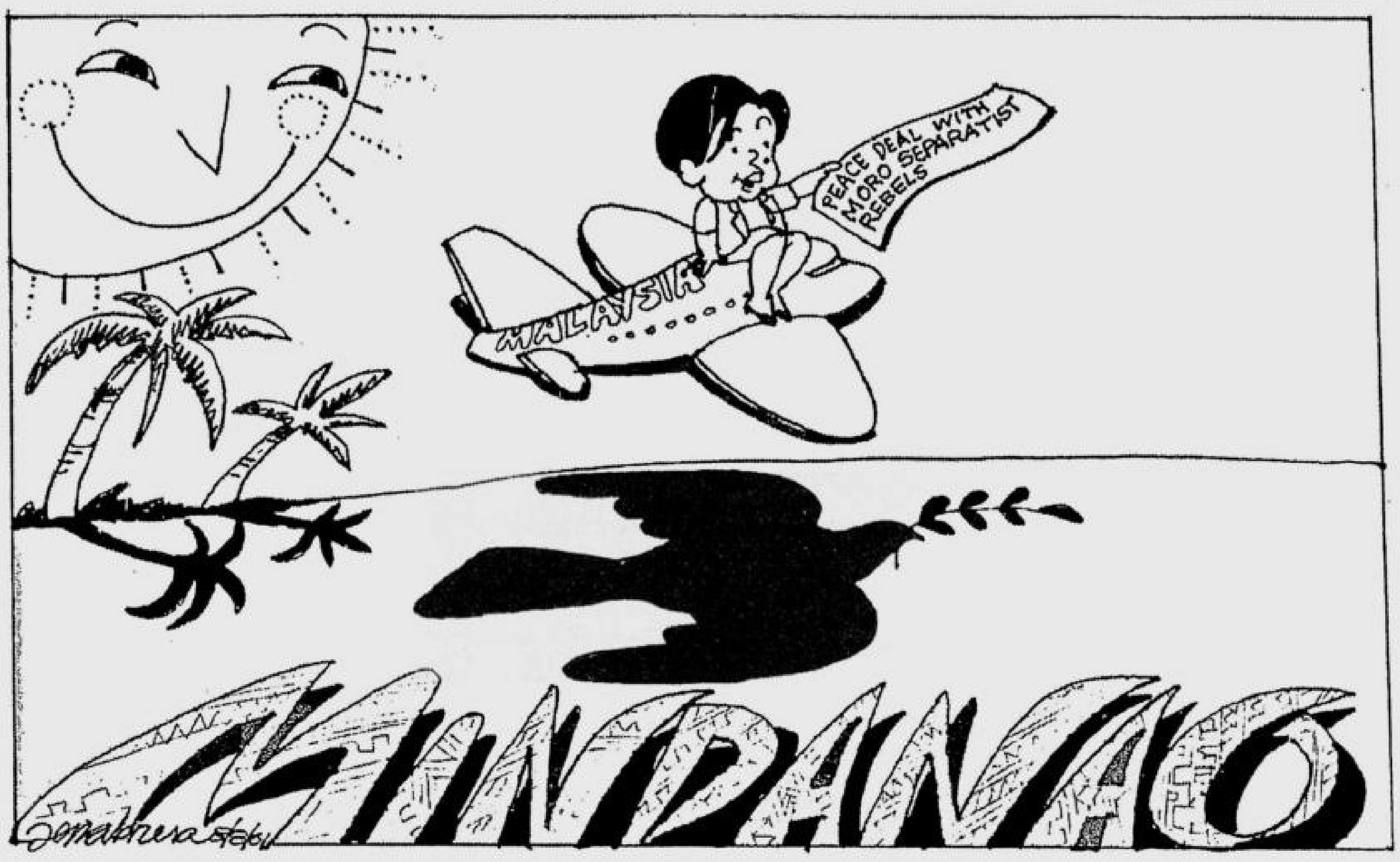
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Hell can wait

EDITORIAL

SEN. Panfilo Lacson is complaining that he is being painted as the devil incarnate by his detractors in government and in media. "I am not the demon that Tulfo and his financiers want so much to maliciously and viciously portray me to be," Lacson wrote the INQUIRER almost as soon as columnist Ramon Tulfo began a series of exposés on his alleged crimes and abuses, including murder, torture, drug trafficking and kidnapping.

Thrice in his first privileged speech Monday in the Senate, where he tried to defend himself against charges of money laundering, Lacson again adverted to the devil and his kingdom. "I have been demonized without notice," Lacson said at one point in his speech. "I have been sent to hell without trial. I begin to wonder how the devil has organized his syndicate so well to do me in." At another point, he declared his readiness to "go straight to jail without trial" if his detractor could present evidence that he had $200 million in deposits in any bank, but added that if they could not produce any proof, "I ask that they go straight to hell." Finally toward the conclusion of his speech, he said: "If I am proven guilty under our criminal justice system, I am willing to go to hell. If (I am proven) innocent, my accusers should give the devil their everlasting company."

For someone who detests being associated with the devil, Lacson seems to have an inordinate compulsion to talk about hell. But surely he knows that even the worst sinners are consigned to hell and cast in the company of the devil only in the afterlife. In this life, only a long prison term or the death sentence awaits the worst criminal offenders. That is all the public expects if government investigators can really build a really strong case against the senator. Hell can wait.

Speaking of the devil, why did some people think they heard him quoting the Scriptures as Lacson was speaking? The former director general of the Philippine National Police began his speech by stressing the need to protect the justice system. "This is the only refuge we can offer to the innocent," he said. "It is the only revenge we can bring to the guilty…[W]ithout a high regard for this system, all other systems in our democracy will fail." Later he declared: "The democratic principle that no one is above the law requires equal treatment for all offenders. It makes due process an absolute right to the accused. It makes the presumption of innocence the first order of the law." And then he went on to say: "The criminal justice system has been devised, by law and convention, to maintain a safe place for everyone, protect the law-abiding from the lawless and punish the criminal in accordance with law."

Well said. But how well did the former officer of the dreaded Metrocom Intelligence Service Group and chief of the Presidential Anti-Crime Commission's Task Force Habagat put these principles into practice? Tulfo claims to have heard suspects being tortured and killed in a room adjoining Lacson's office. A senior police officer has linked him to the abduction and murder of publicist Salvador Dacer and his driver. He is still facing charges in connection with the massacre of 11 alleged members of the Kuratong Baleleng robbery and kidnap gang. Many other crimes have been laid at his door, although no charges have been filed. If just one of these is true, then Lacson should be the last person to be talking about due process and the rule of law.

Until he had to defend himself, Lacson seemed not to have heard of those things. Last week in an interview with Agence France Presse, Lacson did not only express admiration for the dictator Ferdinand Marcos, who was responsible for the death, disappearance and torture of thousands of Filipinos and the plunder of the national treasury, but also made clear his disdain for human rights and due process. He said Filipinos were placing too much emphasis on human rights. Citing the example of an "incorrigible person," Lacson asked rhetorically, "What would you choose, the right of the society to have peace of mind or the individual rights of that person?" Apparently he believes those rights cannot exist side by side.

By his own words, Lacson has shown how little he values human rights and human lives. When asked how many persons he has killed, Lacson said, "I lost count." He justified those killings by saying they were all done in self-defense. But how many times really can a police officer be caught in a situation where he must kill or be killed? Doesn't anybody smell murder somewhere?

It is quite obvious that Lacson believes due process, the rule of law and the presumption of innocence were invented solely for his own protection.

Tales of the red tape

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

"I CONGRATULATE the LTO (Land Transportation Office) for issuing licenses in half an hour. I congratulate the NBI (National Bureau of Investigation) for issuing clearances in one day."—President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in her State of the Nation Address.

But alas, red tape is still very long in other offices and the taxpayers have to wait the whole day and keep coming back for days to get the pieces of paper they want. The President should visit the National Statistics Office and the passport division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and see what her people have to go through to get birth certificates and passports.

At the NSO, the lines begin at dawn (like it used to be at the US Embassy). They get longer as the day lengthens and snake perhaps several blocks long if they were put in a straight line. The crush of people last the whole day. This goes on day after day after day.

What are they lining up for? Certified copies of their birth certificates which are required in many government and school transactions. Birth certificates are supposed to be computerized at the NSO, so why is getting a copy there so slow?

Getting these copies from one's municipal or city hall used to be a breeze. But since the NSO centralized its records, it became a nightmare. Other national government offices like the Department of Health have devolved their offices to local government units. But the NSO is doing the opposite. People from the provinces complain that they have to go to Manila to get certified true copies of their birth certificates although the originals came from their own municipalities in the first place.

* * *

At the passport division of the DFA, the crush of people waiting for their passport begins outdoors. Lines snake in and up and down the building. There are many windows (I think about 30) and offices to go to. But the most dreary part is the waiting, sitting or standing for hours waiting for your name to be called. Many have to keep coming back for days before their ordeal is finished.

The DFA is trying hard to improve the processing of passports. It has provided long lines of chairs and benches for the waiting throng. It has constructed a canopy to shelter them from the sun and rain. It has assigned employees in the lines and offices to help applicants. It has courtesy lanes for people in a hurry where applications are processed in less days—but you have to pay extra—for the employees who work overtime to speed up your passport. For a P500 fee, you can have your passport renewed without leaving your home. A messenger will pick up your old passport and deliver your new one.

But for the first timer, you have to fall in long lines for days and really sweat it out. For try as it might, the efforts of the passport division is not enough. There are just too many applicants and not enough DFA employees. (Seeing so many Filipinos applying for passports made me wonder if all of them are really leaving the country or just want to have a passport in case they get jobs abroad or US visas.) But isn't the solution to the problems of the DFA and the NSO simple: hire more people? That will give more jobs to the jobless—and make the President happy.

They would need more money to pay the additional employees? Now is the time to ask for an increase in their budgets, before the appropriations committee of the House of Representatives starts wrestling with the national budget.

* * *

The long lines and long waits, by the way, are not limited to the DFA and the NSO. It is true in almost all government offices, whether you are paying your loan installments or just buying a residence certificate. (I don't understand what it is for since it is not credible proof of one's residence or identity. Anybody can get one, give any name and address he wants, as long as he parts with his pesos.) Imagine the man-hours lost by Filipinos just waiting, waiting, waiting.

The waiting and the red tape have produced a special breed of entrepreneur in our society: the fixer. He is the guy who can speed things up for you for a few pesos—the more pesos, the faster. He knows all the employees in the office, the ones who work with their desk drawers always open. While these employees are oblivious to you when you try to transact business with them, they suddenly perk up when the fixer presents your papers, the same papers you tried to present to them earlier. It is as if these government servants purposely ignore you and lengthen the red tape so you will need to get the services of their friend, the fixer.

It is worth noting here the efforts of some local government units to make the waiting easy for the taxpayers. In Marikina and Las Piñas, they are served free coffee and can watch television while they wait. Other LGUs may want to copy them.

* * *

TODAY'S joke: An alien empire sent a flying saucer to earth to find out what kind of beings live here. Upon returning to its home planet, the spaceship's commander reported his findings.

"The most useless thing on earth is the human male," he began.

"Why did you say that?" the emperor asked.

"He is composed of useless body parts."

"What do you mean?"

"Well, he has 20 nails that can't be hammered, an Adam's apple that can't be eaten, two nipples that have no milk, two eggs that can't be fried, and a bird that can't fly."

* * *

Comments are welcome at asiseeit@pacific.net.ph

Panfilo Labandero

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

PANFILO Lacson will best be remembered as the man who became a senator for an ad that showed him to be the ultimate soap. That ad, as some people will remember—it is not always easy to trust in the collective memory of Filipinos—had dirty pieces of clothing, marked variously graft and corruption, crime, poverty and so on, being thrown into a washer and a detergent called Ping sprinkled on them. The clothes roil in the washer as foam bubbles up from the Ping Lacson detergent. After a while, the clothes are plucked from the washer, and voila, they sparkle in the sunlight. Nothing beats the zing in Ping.

I personally thought the ad, a takeoff from Mr. Clean—and a clear subliminal reference to it: Lacson is Mr. Clean—had tremendous visual power and was one of the reasons, quite apart from the fact that Lacson spent a fortune in the elections, that he got voted to power. It added whole new metaphors to the image he had been assiduously cultivating, the image of an uncompromising flusher of the dregs, or ills, of society. A little harsh sometimes, his methods included showing no mercy to manacled suspects while they cowered in a van.

That ad will come to haunt Lacson. For many Filipinos—it is not always easy to trust in the collective outrage of Filipinos—it will now go thus. Wads of money, soaked in blood, sweat and tears, are thrown in a washer, and a detergent called Ping is sprinkled on them. The blood, sweat and tears, I borrow from Rhoel Raymundo Mendoza, the overseas Filipino worker who worked for 17 years in Saudi Arabia, and who spoke of the OFWs' sacrifices in these terms, which of course are also the same sacrifices this country's poor make to put bread on their table. The wads of money roil in the washer as foam bubbles up from the Ping detergent. Finally, they are plucked from the washer, and voila, the name Ping is stamped on them. And blinking in the sunlight from a parenthesis, Erap, Erap, Erap…

"Panfilo Labandero" may yet steal the thunder from "Gloria Labandera," though the second will probably stick in the mind as well of Filipinos for reasons other than the President's desire to look and sound homey. Gloria Labandera will henceforth also be associated with the Great Whitewash. At the rate we're going, we may soon replace the Chinese in being a nation of laundrymen and women.

I do not buy the accusation that Lacson had his wife's former husband bumped off. That is the monumental folly of relying on "white papers" as a source of information. Things written anonymously by cowards are not the best thing to pin your faith on. I know some people who knew the couple before they got married, and they all say one thing. Namely, that Lacson's wife had been estranged from her former husband long before she met him. There was no need to get rid of him—at least for the sole motive of coveting thy neighbor's wife.

But I buy the accusation of Lacson being a summary executioner. Though he is not alone to be so in that department. Summary executioners are not the exception in the police department, they are the rule. Executing suspects is a virtual institution in what passes for law enforcement in this country, an initiation, a rite of passage, a ritual of belonging. Nobody rises through the ranks without showing the "balls" to send presumed drug pushers, rapists and murderers to kingdom come, conveniently called (for purposes of conscience, where shreds of it still cling to the brain, like bone fragments from a bullet wound) *"mga halang ang kaluluwa."* Of course some show more talent and energy in that respect than others. I do not know to which category Lacson belongs. But the image of manacled suspects being slaughtered inside a van, their shouts and cries for mercy muffled in the haze of early morning traffic, is not very comforting.

I most certainly buy the accusation that Lacson laundered money abroad. I buy the accusation that he (and his former boss) stashed loot in American banks in the amounts that Col. Victor Corpus reveals. It is not that they are not bright, and do not know that America's anti-laundering laws are very strict, the FBI and other government agencies being immediately notified when deposits exceed certain limits. And it's not that they are not bright and have not heard of Swiss banks, notwithstanding that Marcos made a veritable household word of them. It is simply that power addles the brain, and absolute power addles it completely. The breathtaking crudeness of the laundering operations is all of a piece with the breathtaking crudeness with which Erap, with the help of the gangsters in the "midnight Cabinet," extorted money from gambling lords, manipulated the stock exchange and used a false name to deposit checks.

Of course Lacson is right to demand from Corpuz proof of his claims. Which should not be very hard to do, if Corpuz has them. How hard can it be to trace the ownership of bank accounts in America? Especially when America stands to gain half of the loot if it is proven to be laundered money?

Lacson's countercharge that government is out to get him to prevent him from challenging President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2004 doesn't make things better for him, it makes them worse. He merely offers a powerful motive for his and Erap's money laundering operations. I did hear from a police officer last year—this one is a reliable source—before Erap was cut down by Chavit Singson, that Lacson and Erap were preparing a huge campaign kitty for Lacson's presidential bid in 2004. It wasn't just that Lacson was Erap's protégé, it was also that the surveys gave him consistently high ratings even while Erap's popularity was going down. He was being groomed for the presidency, and toward that end a fat war chest—everything in the PNP was being funneled toward that end, said this person—was being built for him.

Fighting for his political life

ANALYSIS

Amando Doronila

SEN. Panfilo Lacson inaugurates his term with a baptism of fire. His first official act as a senator is to deliver a privilege speech defending himself against charges of laundering huge amounts of money in the United States, Hong Kong and Canada, and owning property in California, USA. Instead of launching an offensive against the administration's shortcomings, he has found himself on the defensive, fighting for his political life.

The allegations are contained in a report of an investigation conducted jointly by the Philippine National Police and the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp).

The investigation was carried inside the country and it uncovered tracks leading to an overseas money trail. An Isafp-police investigating team conducted an investigation in the United States and traced a paper trail leading to alleged bank accounts of Lacson, his wife, Alice, deposed President Joseph Estrada and his wife, Sen. Loi Ejercito. The Isafp report was published by the Inquirer on Sunday, in pursuit of what the paper believes is a disclosure of information deemed to be in the public interest. Lacson has asked for a Senate inquiry.

The above summarizes what has so far been established as facts. Although the Isafp-police report is backed by documents, it seems corroborative evidence is needed. Ramon Tulfo, a columnist of this paper, ignited the fire by writing a series of columns on Lacson's activities in the national police and in the security services of the Marcos regime. Some of Tulfo's evidence is based on the Isafp files.

The disclosure by the Inquirer of the Isafp-police report has thrown its story into the center of the public controversy. Lacson's privilege speech defending himself against the allegations puts the report right in the center of an inquiry in which further disclosures can now be covered by parliamentary immunity. Such an inquiry can generate disclosure of new information and inputs. The inquiry by public agencies—whether it be the Senate, or the Ombudsman—is the best thing that could happen to Lacson, Tulfo, the Inquirer, the Isafp, the PNP and the government itself.

The allegations are serious; it would not help anyone if they are ignored or dismissed blithely as a concoction of "mad" minds, as Lacson would describe them. Some people suggest that the scale of money laundering—if the report is true—is so astronomical that it could have been derived from drug trafficking. Drug trafficking, with crimes associated with it, is a national security issue. It is not enough for Lacson and Loi Ejercito to dare that they would resign from the Senate if the Isafp can produce more credible evidence linking them to money laundering. There are specific details catalogued in the report that raise many questions and require answers beyond just dismissing the report as a diabolical project of the government to demonize Lacson and to cripple his chances in the 2004 presidential elections.

The response by Lacson that no one can open a bank account in the United States without a social security card is absolutely false. Those who have lived in the United States know this. Lacson had better put up a more credible defense than this, otherwise he will be defending himself from a position of weakness.

The administration considers the contents of the report as a "national security matter," Lacson has called Col. Victor Corpus a "security risk" and Corpus has labeled Lacson as a "security risk." All these aspects can now be put under the merciless scrutiny of a public investigation.

The Isafp-police "white paper" on Lacson has again polarized Philippine politics as deeply as in the conflict over the filing of plunder and perjury charges against Estrada in the Sandiganbayan. It has reopened old cleavage lines. Lacson is considering filing a libel suit against the Inquirer; if he does, the case could be one of the most celebrated cases on the issue of press freedom—in particular, the issue over the right to publish and the right of the public to know about matters of public interest, involving acts of public officials.

The administration has thrown its weight behind the "white paper" and the contention that the allegations against Lacson involve public interest. The Inquirer, by publishing the report, is caught in the crossfire. If Lacson files the libel case, the action would push the Inquirer on the same side as the government but for different reasons. The government is pressing the case as an action against heinous crime, and the Inquirer as an action to protect the public's right to know.

In the interpellation in the Senate following Lacson's speech, a divide has already appeared running along partisan lines. In trying to close ranks behind Lacson, opposition senators face political costs for being identified with Lacson and the crimes to which the "white paper" has linked him.

This new polarization throws the Senate back to the partisan alignment of the impeachment trial. The pivot of that alignment was the impeachment charges against Estrada. In the new polarization, the man on the carpet is closely identified with the deposed president and the corruption cases against Estrada. Corruption is an issue we have inherited as a legacy of the previous administration, and in the post-Estrada cleansing process, it should not be a surprise that the battle to curb corruption is being fought over alleged corruption by one of the closest Estrada heirs—Senator Lacson.

We can now see why Lacson desperately needed to be elected to the Senate. He was aware that investigations had been under way in the PNP and the military intelligence service and it was only a matter of time before the charges would be laid against him in the courts of justice. His election to the Senate has given him a platform from which to defend himself and to retaliate against possible charges. He needed the Senate as a shield against harassment.

Return of the musical

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

ONE of the hottest trends in the United States, I heard, is going to see a "sing-along" version of "The Sound of Music."

It's actually a screening of the movie, but with a difference: the words to the songs are projected onscreen and a "bouncing ball" helps and encourages the audience to sing along with Julie Andrews and the rest of the Von Trapp Family Singers and their friends. A decade or so ago, I would have thought the idea too cheesy for words, but now that the movie (and me) has grown old enough for nostalgia, a night of singing along with the "Sound of Music" holds a certain appeal.

Sing-along "Sound of Music" would likewise be a big hit here, I wager. I still remember the time the movie first played here, to standing-room-only crowds at every screening for what seemed like months and months. I remember an aunt regaling us with a story of how she had had to bring a seemingly endless stream of visitors from out of town to the theater so they could watch "The Sound of Music." "I must have seen that movie over 10 times!" she said, with not a trace of exasperation.

Besides, judging from the undying national obsession with videoke and sing-along sessions, "The Sound of Music," sing-along version, should prove to be the mother of all videoke hits. Even now, I'm readying my best Julie Andrews impersonation, even if at the height of its popularity, I fantasized about being the middle Von Trapp daughter.

* * *

WHILE the surprise popularity of sing-along "Sound of Music" could be attributed to yet another sign of the aging baby boomers' clout, it also signifies the return of music, or to be more precise, the musical, to the movies.

If this blossoms into a full-blown trend, then "Moulin Rouge" was its harbinger. I first saw it when a friend, whose sister works in a cineplex near San Francisco, smuggled my brother and me into a screening. I was mildly puzzled when Nicole Kidman as the courtesan Satine in a turn-of-the-century cabaret entertained the male audience with "Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend." But by the time Ewan MacGregor as the writer Christian broke out into a heartfelt rendition of Elton John's "Your Song," I quite willingly surrendered to the premise of a movie musical set to pop hits and standards. When I first heard "Your Song" in a movie about two underage lovers, I thought it rather sappy. But transported into a struggling bohemian's anthem to the woman of his dreams, the pop hit is actually moving. (I am now adding it to a list of love songs I am compiling for a coming anniversary.)

It was the "Like a Virgin" sequence, sung by the oily club owner and the sinister Duke, against a chorus of stiff-necked waiters and butlers, that really blew me away, though. I actually burst out in laughter, delighted at the absurdity and director Baz Luhrmann's audacious risk-taking.

My friend said some moviegoers walked out a few minutes after the movie began, complaining that they could make neither heads nor tails of the dialogue, or became dizzy with Luhrmann's frenetic camera movements. Indeed, one reason I watched it again recently was that I wanted to get key snatches of dialogue and scenery that I somehow overlooked the first time around, so overwhelmed was I by the total impact of color, drama, costumes and onscreen passion. To say "Moulin Rouge" is over-the-top is to say Sen. Ping Lacson is beleaguered.

* * *

BUT visual "busy-ness," symbol layered upon style, pulsing music and passionate characters seem to be trademarks of any Luhrmann film.

I delighted in the way he brought "Romeo and Juliet" up-to-date and made it "cool" to teeners again by transporting it from ancient Verona to happening Miami, then focused on the heated romance between two young people whose love is thwarted by adults. I loved that he didn't talk down to his young audience, but situated the lovers, who might well have been their contemporaries, within the frenetic heedless inner world of adolescence, and their conflict-ridden outer world.

In "Moulin Rouge," Luhrmann's protagonists are not as young, but their feelings for each other are as just as intense as those of the two doomed Shakespearean lovers. Satine is a worldly wise courtesan who uses men for gain, and Christian is a writer in search of genuine life experience. For them, falling in love is a gamble and an adventure, fraught with risk but thrilling.

Young people would certainly understand.

* * *

WHY does "Moulin Rouge," which is, beyond the innovative camera work, an old-fashioned musical, succeed decades after Hollywood proclaimed the death of the musical?

Writing in The Independent, David Thomson says that one reason the musical, as a profitable movie genre, passed into obsolescence was that "maybe we're too knowing now about the subject of (musicals)," which is, simply, love. "And that's why 'Moulin Rouge' can get away with being a riot of stylishness because it trusts that grave simplicity," says Thomson. "It finds it in the way Ewan McGregor and Nicole Kidman look at each other and the attractive, halting way in which they sing like amateurs. But why not? Amateurs do it out of love, after all."

Thomson says that "what makes 'Moulin Rouge' so important and innovative is the notion that ordinary people might sing, the way we all sing those silly love songs when we believe no one's listening. It's that feeling you get in much of Dennis Potter's work—in 'Pennies from Heaven' and 'The Singing Detective'--that some of those songs have passed into a shared repertoire so that you and I could try them. It's the amateur possibility and the realization that the commonest heart longs to sing."

Which is why, I venture, "The Sound of Music," sing-along version, will be a big hit once someone latches onto the idea and brings it here.

Treasures long gone

LOOKING BACK

Ambeth R. Ocampo

MY mind reels when I think of the overseas dollar accounts allegedly maintained by Sen. Panfilo Lacson and former President Estrada. Seven hundred million is a lot of money. More, if you convert dollars to pesos and multiply by 53 to produce a figure that would not fit on my tiny calculator. Since wealth is often measured by cold cash or potential cash, I wonder about the value of artifacts listed in the "Catalogue of Paintings, Sculptures and Historical Objects" published in 1938 by the Gallery of Art and History, a division of the National Library. Many of these objects of historical or artistic interest were lost or destroyed during the Battle for Manila in 1945. (I was asked why I do not, as some sentimental people do, refer to this event in history as the "Liberation of Manila.") While the Japanese massacred innocent people in the last days of the war, it was American shelling that laid waste to Intramuros and much of Manila. Much of history went with the buildings and homes that were ruined by the war. This was not liberation. All I have left are entries in this prewar catalogue.

The paintings described there by Luna, Hidalgo, De la Rosa, Amorsolo, et al. have fair market value today and can be converted to cash. The word "priceless" comes to mind when I think of historical objects like a bottle and glass that Emilio Aguinaldo used in a battlefield for want of a decent flask. How do you place a price tag on this or pieces of clothing that were worn not by Jose Rizal but by his relatives? I can understand collectors lusting over Rizal's ashtray, but would they pay good money for two embroidered piña shirts worn by Rizal's father "when he was still young"? Who would buy the dot-embroidered *camisa* worn by Rizal's grandmother? Described as "...not like the modern ones, its neck and sleeves are narrower." Whatever that means. Then there are the black silk drawers or *calzoncillos de seda* made in the 18th century and once owned by the great-grandfather of Rizal! They are described as, "...very wide, resembling drawers of the ancient Chinese which are embroidered in the lower part." *Ay naku*, while everyone is dreaming of the alleged Lacson-Estrada overseas bank accounts, as well as the Marcos Swiss accounts, here I am wondering over a treasure that is long gone.

Teodoro M. Kalaw was director of the National Library which may explain why some descriptions of objects from Batangas are rather long and detailed. For example a coffee box merited this text:

"This artistically carved box was made in 1887. It was used for storing samples of grains of coffee. It must have been owned by Messrs. G. Aguilera and J. Lozada, who belonged to two rich and distinguished families of Lipa, Batangas, because their names are carved on its lid. According to the old people, the wide lands of Batangas used to be planted with coffee. The harvests were good. Several families became fabulously wealthy. The Solis, Lozada and Aguilera ladies could afford to adorn their *zapatillas*, collars, bracelets and earrings with diamonds. Because of the great wealth of the community it was called La Villa de Lipa of Batangas. It is also related by the old people that due to the contentment of the inhabitants for their success in the coffee industry, they once organized a civic procession and paraded in floats the coffee plant, farming implements and a machine for milling the grains of coffee. Some time, thereafter, the coffee plants gradually withered until the vast plantations were destroyed."

Here is a coffee box that gained importance because of its history just like two wooden trunks in the National Library. The bigger of the two was made "artistically" in the 19th century, the fascinating one was smaller, made in the 18th century and said to be:

"...Used by bandits in keeping stolen goods. It formerly belonged to the famous bandit chief, Martin Huelgas, a native of the barrio of Buli, Taal, Batangas. Upon his death, it passed into the hands of the other famous bandit, Francisco alias Kikong Ilog, who was the terror at that time of Laguna, Tayabas and Batangas. The commandant of the Civil Guards, Villa-Abrille, with a large force under him, made a futile attempt to capture the bandit, Francisco. Captain Getulio Salazar eventually captured him. Sotero Salazar, the son of Captain Salazar, sold the trunk to the National Library."

In themselves these are ordinary wooden trunks, but when they tell a story they become extraordinary and worthy of display in a museum. Archaeologists can paint a picture of the pre-colonial Philippines from pots and stone tools while historians can weave a narrative from surgical instruments used in an operation on Manuel Luis Quezon or wood gavels used by Manuel Roxas, Claro M. Recto, Quintin Paredes and Sergio Osmeña. Museums have all sorts of items in storage, not everything with monetary value, each with a story to tell. Present museum collections are quite different from those in 1938, revealing not just what we value today. Museum artifacts are a reflection of ourselves and our times.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

It's now or never

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

I HAVE never prayed for any president but Gloria. Not even for Cory? Not even for Cory, and not because I love her less but because we all stood behind her in the critical days.

Now, Gloria and we are getting it on all fronts. *Kahit saan ka lumingon, mabigat ang problema.* URGENT is stamped on every one of them. There can be no luxury of tackling the problems one by one, not a slim chance of prioritizing. It's push and pull on all sides. Everything has to be confronted *sabay-sabay*.

Borrowing from Villa's comma poems for emphasis: No, one, single, problem, is, more, serious, than, another. Each, one, is, equally, serious. And, each, one, is, linked, to, the, other. Poverty is linked to population is linked to ignorance is linked to education is linked to jobs is linked to housing is linked to health is linked to corruption is linked to politicians and so on down the line.

Let not the man of God say the problem is spiritual or the educator say it is educational, or the moralist say it is moral, or the sociologist say it is cultural, or the economist say it is economic, etc. It is every one of them, separate and together. We're swamped and we could sink.

The sinking feeling is carrying our young professionals and skilled workers to other shores (2,300 every day). Here's an exaggerated worst scenario: when our productive youth leave, we might become a country with an entrenched and aging rich minority and the teeming poor at the gates, unless...Has Jerry Barican whose column I shall miss, been bitten by this now-or-never feeling?

People power, an eminent right used for the wrong reasons, is now ignited like a strike-anywhere match and comes through as anarchic, not patriotic. Take a good look at Rene Bañez of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Richard Gordon of the Department of Tourism, Vitaliano Nañagas II, formerly of the Social Security System. They're the kind of persons that could get this country moving. What do they get for making the *baon*-eating, story-telling, nail-clipping government employees learn and work, and faster and more efficiently too? I have no doubt that Cora de la Paz will do the same.

How have we come to this? But never mind "how." Odette Alcantara advices us "not to waste energy" on the corruptors and obstructionists. "They will self-destruct"—except that they cause untold damage before they do.

What's to be done? Stand behind the President's very concrete programs. Pick up positive suggestions read and received from other sources (leave the mission-vision platitudes to the planners).. Note the short-term projects (those whose effects must be felt immediately for relief and sheer survival), and the long-term ones (those whose effects will come in slower and which in time must be institutionalized into the system). All must get off the ground now. I'm not really worried about the money. "There is plenty of money if you only know where to look," according to Joe de Venecia and Edgardo Angara. They would know.

For example, short-termers are: textbooks for our students, the tax cut for Juan de la Cruz, half-price for basic drugs, training and purging the police ranks, health clinics in every depressed community (whatever happened to the puericulture centers?), 100-200-300-thousand emergency jobs, initiated not only by government but by individuals, organizations and companies. What jobs, pray? Plant on empty lots and idle lands (Neal Cruz's suggestion); dredge canals and creeks; repair rundown schools and government offices; clean the streets and the markets; segregate and compost garbage by community.

Some long-termers are: more and better paid teachers, reevaluation of curriculums, mass transit (trains especially) in and out of Metro Manila to decongest squatters, mass housing, computerization of elections, upgrading of military training and equipment (Barican's observation), competent and motivated agricultural extension services (cousin Atio Maramba's input), coordination between Church and State, i.e., between parishes and barangays which must "seek out the poor" and give them seminars and training, not just money and old clothes (a priest-caller's input).

There is one problem Gloria never touched in her State of the Nation Address. Did she forget it or were there constraints to her remembering? There was not a peep on population management, considered by many, not only as a problem but as a principal root of so many others. Our galloping population could bring several of the aforementioned projects to naught. What if we did generate 100,000 jobs, build 100,000 homes, pour in 100,000 textbooks, build a mass transit for 100,000 commuters, etc. By the time these wound up, population would have doubled or tripled. Imagine a "ceiling" that turns out to be another room you must stoop into "upstairs," two-by-two meters, smaller than some couples' king-size beds, housing father, mother, five children and more to come. The health centers, the jobs, the homes, the books, the food, the income would never be able to catch up. It's arithmetic progress vis-à-vis geometric increase. How will we ever make it?

Asuncion David Maramba is a book editor, retired professor and occasional journalist.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...?

Marcos' cross-claim on PLDT shares

IMELDA Marcos threatened to run after the alleged crony trustees of her late husband Ferdinand Marcos to recover billions of pesos worth of stocks in some of the country's top corporations, including the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PDI, 3/11/99)

Ironically, she made this threat 12 years after she was charged with her husband and children at the Sandiganbayan for amassing ill-gotten wealth. A civil case of "reversion, reconveyance, restitution, accounting damages" involving PLDT shares was filed by the government, represented by the Presidential Commission on Good Government, against the Marcoses, among others, on July 16, 1987. It was initially assigned to the Third Division but was transferred to the Fourth Division.

On April 21, 1999, the former first lady filed a cross-claim with the Fourth Division charging some of her co-defendants in the civil case Imelda Cojuangco, the estate of Ramon Cojuangco (which the former represents) and Prime Holdings Inc. She asked the court to order the Cojuangcos and their trustees to transfer to her name more than 113,000 shares of PLDT stocks her family used to hold, including pertinent "income, accruals and interest and dividends." Marcos said she was provoked to file the cross-claim because of the sale of P30 billion worth of PLDT shares by Antonio "Tonyboy" Cojuangco and his mother Imelda, to First Pacific Co. Ltd. of Hong Kong in November 1998.

The Cojuangcos claimed that the cross-claim was belatedly filed. Moreover, the cross-claim did not contain Marcos' answer which the rules of court require. In addition to that, they said the cross-claim would cause delay.

On Feb. 22, 2000, the Court promulgated a resolution dated Feb. 17, 2000. In the resolution, the justices favored the arguments raised by the Cojuangcos, thus dismissing Marcos' cross-claim.

Case status: With the cross-claim dismissed, the civil case involving PLDT shares is still in its trial stage. The PCGG is still presenting its pieces of evidence and is yet to file its formal offer of evidence. ***Armin P. Adina, PDI Research Department***

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Crucial lesson of SSS row

AS a sideline watcher, I could not be sure that ousted Social Security System chief, Vitaliano Nañagas II, was wrong or that his adversaries, the multitude at the SSS, were right. But one thing that I am almost sure about is that the erstwhile SSS chief failed to sell his reform measures to the important stakeholders in the SSS, the employees. Oftentimes, government programs or reforms fail because of lack of social marketing and the sense of ownership of the program or reform measure among the stakeholders. The culprit for this is none other than the top-down approach in decision-making. Leaders in the public sector would do well to learn a lesson from the recent SSS debacle even as it typifies the state of implementation of some government programs and reform measures. Malacañang should also learn a lesson or two from the SSS experience toward a paradigm shift in governance. Otherwise, the SSS fiasco would just become another good topic for a case study in the Center for Development Management of the Asian Institute of Management.—**FRANK E. LOBRIGO, One Doña J. Guevara St., Cabagñan West, Legazpi City**

State of UP's finances

IN HER letter to the INQUIRER (PDI, 7/31/01), Minerva Salao recommends to the University of the Philippines a "reality check." In fact, we do that every so often and she is most welcome to contribute constructive ideas to the exercise. But she has to correct the facts on which her impressions of UP's reality are based.

The Senate cut the UP budget by P166 million from our maintenance and operating expenditures, not a staggering P1 billion as she said. But even that smaller amount sufficed to outrage not only the students but also the faculty and alumni.

It did not compel us to adopt desperate measures. We were able to absorb the slash by rationalizing our internal system of financial management. We reduced administrative costs and reallocated funds according to a clear formula that reflects our academic priorities.

Other government agencies (Department of Agriculture, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Health and Commission on Higher Education) shared with us their own budgets by supporting our projects that tallied with their programs. All these more than made up for what we lost.

The scramble for government subsidy is not just a matter of getting a bigger budget. It is also a matter of having what is allotted in the General Appropriations Act released by the Department of Budget and Management. Last fiscal year, the DBM released 98 percent of our current operating expenditures allotment. The Office of the President also provided UP close to P200 million for merit promotions.

The budget cut was not the reason for increasing graduate tuition and the laboratory fees. Even without the cut, the ridiculously low tuition for graduate courses would have to be adjusted due to inflation and the depreciation of the peso. The graduate students themselves gave their consent to the increase.

While the university provides the equipment, the students have always been paying for the chemical reagents, software and other materials needed in laboratory courses. The prices of these have multiplied many times since the previous laboratory fee rates were calculated. The students in those courses approved the adjustments, indicating that they are willing to pay more for an adequate science education.

Yes, we are determined to make our idle assets generate income to support UP's modernization. Although we have consigned to the morgue the plan to turn our Commonwealth property into a commercial center, complete with shopping malls and high-rise condominiums, we worked out an alternative plan to turn it into a university town and a technology park.

A science and technology park may not—in the short run—rake in as much as the expected revenues from the commercial center plan, but by attracting locators whose businesses are compatible with higher education, our alternative plan will give our students access to state-of-the-art technologies that we can never acquire if we just depend on government subsidy.

The lesson we learned from last year's budget cut is that we must diversify our sources of funds. Our dependence on government for 75 percent of our operating budget makes UP extremely vulnerable to the whims of politicians. Salao is right, there are more creative ways to raise funds than increasing tuition.

Leasing our land is just as unimaginative. Most of the land UP owns are denuded mountains, despoiled mangrove swamps and squatter-infested urban lots. They are more a drain on our resources than a potential income source.

It was just as well that the Commonwealth Property Development Plan was not implemented. Had we entered into a joint venture on the eve of the Asian currency crisis, we would now be saddled with a huge non-performing asset.

Salao's reference to socialism is utterly off tangent. I can debate with her on that issue if she pursues it. I am painfully aware that UP is operating in a capitalist context. My administration is trying to give our students the best possible education in a non-ideal environment.—**FRANCISCO NEMENZO, president, University of the Philippines, 2nd Floor, Quezon Hall, UP Diliman, Quezon City**

IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

LETTERS

Boring 'dogs of war'

THE CONCERNED Women of the Philippines supports President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's goals and vision for the country as expressed in her no-nonsense State of the Nation Address. She has given us the sense of direction that was solely lacking in the previous regime. She has reminded us of what a poet once said: "A man's reach must exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?"

The Filipino people gave President Macapagal's predecessor more than two years to prove himself worthy of his position. His followers had all the opportunities to call his attention to his ineptness and corruption but they failed to utter a word. Now, after only seven months of the new administration, these same people are working for its speedy downfall by carping, nitpicking and indulging in sour grapes. They would rather wallow in despair than look at the positive side of the President's address. They would rather drag the nation with them into their self-made quicksand. If they believe, as we all do, that the state of the nation is critical, why don't they contribute to the President's solutions to the problems? Perhaps it is because they form the biggest problem of all—politicking.

President Macapagal has appealed to the legislators for cooperation. Instead, the hostile senators have announced that they will present their own "counter-Sona," one by one. They are now gleefully priming their "guns of August" for their theatrical performance. By shooting down the President, they hope to shoot down the entire country.

The CWP has news for these "dogs of war": They are boring.—**EVELYN LAO KILAYKO, chair, Concerned Women of the Philippines, 265-C, Katipunan Road, Loyola Heights, Quezon City**

Human value, not subservience

CONRADO de Quiros' column on PLDT's "Disgrasya" commercials (PDI, 9/2/01) asks why a son must try to win his mother's approval of his future partner. To show that he hasn't stopped being a Filipino even while in the United States is "the depths of subservience."

The desire for parental approval is not subservience, or even uniquely Filipino. The empirical evidence is that the bond we form at childhood with our parents exerts a lasting influence as we grow into adulthood—in our favorite dishes, our choice of medicines, our personal hygiene, even our chosen professions and mates.

Anecdote: In the late '60s a college friend received a round-trip ticket to the United States from her parents for passing the bar exams. Loida was expected to return home to a career in law and, possibly, Sorsogon politics; but while in New York, as luck would have it, she fell in love. Reggie may not have been, in De Quiros' words, "aesthetically challenged," but he was worse: he was the male counterpart of "a dark woman from the American barrios." He was a black from East Baltimore.

Loida couldn't and wouldn't stop being Filipino, and insisted on coming home to seek parental consent. But even among her friends, opposition to the match was strong, and Reggie warned that once she left the United States, he wouldn't count on her coming back.

But all ended well. From California she wrote a long and eloquent letter to her folks, then took the long way home, so her parents would have a few days to get over the initial shock. Which they did. In fact, they insisted on a Manila wedding.

Loida Nicolas-Lewis is now a widow, but until Reginald F. Lewis died in 1993, theirs was a happy marriage, and part of that happiness stemmed from the confidence that the union enjoyed parental blessings on both sides. Given the odds against lasting marriages, it makes sense for PLDT's Billy to invest in his mom's approval from day one.—**J.S. ONG, 13 San Mateo, Barrio Capitolyo, Pasig City**

Unrepentant, defiant John O

IT seems Sen. John Osmeña has not been tranquilized by the restorative dose administered to him by the people's uprising that ousted Joseph Estrada from office. On the contrary, the supposed antidote has apparently made Osmeña's fascist brain cells run amuck, his logic more skewed than ever.

Osmeña's insinuation that "the most disturbing aspect of Vitaliano Nañagas II's removal from the Social Security System was mob rule," was a desperate attempt to downplay the people's militant struggle against privatization and other policies of imperialist globalization being promoted by the government. Worse, he incessantly adheres to the kind of repression Erap used to unleash against the people's democratic movement. If Osmeña's fascist fancy of "calling in the fire trucks and the anti-riot police to break up the demonstrations" prevailed, it would have placed the peaceful SSS protest in the record book of state fascism along with the Mendiola massacre, 2000 State of the Nation Address bloody dispersal, etc.

Osmeña and his cognates habitually panic whenever shown the effectiveness of people's mobilization against the torchbearers of repressive policies of the government.

While the Macapagal administration and the propagandists of globalization are desperately demoting the SSS employees' opposition to privatization as only against Nañagas and his kind of management style (wary of losing control over its plan to privatize other state institutions), Osmeña remains defiant against the interests of the people.

The strong signal of the growing public uproar against privatization, liberalization and deregulation policies of the present and past administrations may not have an effect on Osmeña's callous sensitivity by now. But his insensate attitude will soon put him in isolation along with the oppressive system he is trying to preserve.—**MARIE HILAO-ENRIQUEZ, secretary general, Alliance for the Advancement of People's Rights, 23-D Mabuhay St., Central District, Diliman, Quezon City**

It's more than a change in name.

The University of Santo Tomas Hospital's Artificial Kidney Unit is now the Center for Kidney Diseases.

As one of the earliest kidney dialysis units in the country, with the impressive ***distinction of having performed the first successful kidney transplant in the Philippines***, the University of Santo Tomas Hospital's Center for Kidney Diseases continues its proud tradition of excellence to provide optimal and comprehensive care to patients with end stage and various renal diseases. Its new name attests to the realization of establishing a modern facility that allows the performance of 400 dialysis procedures in a week with full integration of peritoneal dialysis and chemotheraphy units all equipped with Baxter 1550 and automated cycler machine. Coupled with the support from the Hospital's different ancillary services and disciplines of medicine, the Center can provide patients with TOTAL renal care.

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Ombudsman has cleared Oreta

IN FORMER JUSTICE Isagani A. Cruz's column of July 29, 2001, he referred to a charge raised by Ramon A. Gonzales against Sen. Tessie Aquino-Oreta for supposedly having an "apparent financial interest in a government contract."

We remind Cruz and the public that the case, OMB-0-00-11-2, was dismissed with finality by the Office of the Ombudsman in a resolution dated Dec. 12, 2000.

In its resolution dismissing the case, the Ombudsman wrote: "Scrutiny of the records shows no iota of evidence showing that respondent Aquino-Oreta is a stockholder, director or officer of Amoco. Neither is there a showing that the respondent had used her position as senator to influence the NIA officials to award the project to Amoco, or that respondent Aquino-Oreta had personally and actually intervened, either in her official or private capacity, in behalf of, and in the interest of Amoco, relative to the contested project."

The dismissal was recommended by graft investigation officer Edgar R. Navales and approved by Ombudsman Aniano A. Desierto.

We are surprised that Cruz, who, as a member of the Supreme Court, found the complainant Gonzales liable for legal malpractice, continues to lend credence to what was obviously Gonzales' harassment of Oreta.

We note that there is no reference to the clearing of Oreta's name in Cruz's column. His choice of words makes it appear that the case against her is unresolved.

While newspaper columnists are protected by the constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech, they are bound to exercise that right with the necessary prudence.—**TERESITA S. CASTILLO, 5th Floor, Ermita Bldg., Arquiza cor. Alhambra Streets, Ermita, Manila**

The WORLD

Luverne B. Gueco, Editor

Hiroshima governor slams Koizumi war shrine visit

TOKYO—A leader representing one of the two Japanese cities destroyed by US atomic bombs criticized Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi Tuesday for planning to visit a controversial war shrine.

Hiroshima prefecture governor Yuzan Fujita criticized the proposed visit to Tokyo's Yasukuni Shrine a day after Koizumi visited the western city on the 56th anniversary of its US atomic bombing in World War II.

"If South Korea and China have shown concern, he could visit the two countries in a rush to seek understanding and then make the visit," Fujita told a regular news conference in Hiroshima.

"Personally I think things are in the wrong order," the governor of the region surrounding the city said.

KOIZUMI

Koizumi had said he would go ahead with the pilgrimage to Yasukuni Shrine on Aug. 15, the anniversary of Japan's surrender, and then seek understanding from neighbors invaded by Japan before and during the war.

After attending a ceremony to remember the horrors of Hiroshima, Koizumi told reporters he had yet to decide whether to visit the shrine in central Tokyo.

The other Japanese city obliterated by atomic bomb, Nagasaki, commemorates its grim anniversary on Thursday.

Asian nations led by China and South Korea have protested bitterly about the prime minister visiting the shrine, which venerates Japanese war dead including war criminals hanged by the victorious Allies.

"I have repeatedly said he should consider" the timing and appropriateness of the pilgrimage, commented Taku Yamasaki, the secretary general of Koizumi's Liberal Democratic Party.

At least four out of the 17 ministers in Koizumi's cabinet plan to go to Yasukuni on August 15, Jiji Press reported.

They were Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Takeo Hiranuma, Finance Minister Masajuro Shiokawa, Chairman of the National Public Safety Commission Jin Murai, and Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications Minister Toranosuke Katayama.

Koizumi said he was still "carefully considering" his own visit, according to Jiji. Asked about the four ministers' intentions, he was quoted as saying it was "up to the individual's own judgement."

The Yasukuni visit has become all the more controversial after Tokyo rejected demands from Beijing and Seoul to revise school history textbooks which are accused of glossing over Japanese wartime atrocities. *AFP*

Married archbishop appeals to Pope

ROME—Emmanuel Milingo, the archbishop who scandalized the Catholic world by defecting to the sect of Rev. Sun Myung Moon and marrying a Korean woman, has turned up in Rome in an apparent attempt to make peace with Pope John Paul.

Church sources said Milingo, who was born in Zambia, showed up unexpectedly on Monday night at the papal summer residence of Castelgandolfo, southeast of Rome, and spent about half an hour inside.

It was not clear if the 71-year-old archbishop, a charismatic faith healer and exorcist, met the Pope at the residence or whether he spoke to a papal aide.

The visit took place just two weeks before an Aug. 20 deadline for Milingo to publicly return to the fold, renounce Moon's sect, leave his wife or face excommunication.

The visit, the latest surprise by the colorful maverick prelate, could lead to a last-minute personal reconciliation with the Vatican.

But most church observers believe Milingo's career in the Roman Catholic Church is essentially over following the spectacular way in which he joined the Moon sect in New York last May.

Vatican sources said at the time the Pope felt hurt by Milingo's action because the Pontiff had often been lenient with the him when others in the Church felt he had to disciplined for unauthorized faith healing and exorcism.

Last month, the Vatican read the religious riot act to Milingo, ordering him to comply with conditions set by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith.

The conditions were:

"(A) Leave (wife) Maria Sung; (b) sever all links with the sect, Family Federation for World Peace and Unification; (c) declare publicly his fidelity to the doctrine and ecclesiastical discipline of celibacy and to manifest his obedience to the Supreme Pontiff by a clear and unequivocal act."

The order continued:

"Should Archbishop Milingo not formally act by Aug. 20, 2001 to fulfil what is hereby required of him, excommunication reserved to the Holy See will be imposed."

Excommunication is a total cutoff from the Church. In modern times it has been rare, particularly for high-ranking prelates. *Reuters*

'Code Red' worm hits S. Korea

SEOUL—The "Code Red" virus has attacked parts of the South Korean government's computer networks for the first time, the government administration ministry warned Tuesday.

The computer worm has forced several computer systems at a government building to crash or slow down since it was discovered on Monday, it said.

"We asked all government officials to sever the links between their own computers using Window NT or Window 2000 and their main servers today," said Lee Se-woo, a ministry official handling the Code Red.

The computer worm is mainly targeting Microsoft's Windows NT and 2000 operating systems and its IIS Web server software.

Lee said "three or four" computers were confirmed to be infected by Code Red at the government's office building in Taejon, 164 km south of Seoul, after an initial report Monday.

Computer systems at five government agencies have been investigated for possible Code Red infections over the last two days, he added.

The Code Red-infected computers leave their users at risk of decreased speed of Internet access and interruptions to system functions.

The new type of computer virus infected 250,000 systems in the United States in just nine hours on July 19.

Debbie Weierman, a spokesperson for the FBI's National Infrastructure Protection Center, warned Monday that at least two mutant variations of Code Red have been ravaging computers since late last week. *AFP*

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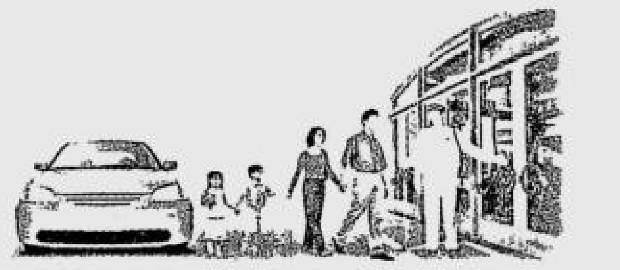

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POSSIBLE NEW SUMMIT

Vajpayee: Pakistan-sponsored 'terrorism' obstructing peace

NEW DELHI—Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee said Tuesday he was willing to push talks with Pakistan, but warned that sponsorship of "terrorism" in Kashmir blocked the way to permanent peace.

In a lengthy statement to parliament, Vajpayee also attacked Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf for his performance at their landmark summit last month, saying he had a poor grasp of history and of the finer points of diplomatic protocol.

While stressing his desire for further talks, Vajpayee said that "cross-border terrorism" in Kashmir was preventing any improvement in ties between the nuclear South Asian rivals.

"To them (Kashmir) might just be a piece of land. For us it is a part of our hearts," Vajpayee said.

"Look how innocent people are being slaughtered in Kashmir... it is difficult to resolve the problem under these conditions.

"I hope Pakistan will change its policy."

Violence in Kashmir has intensified since the failed summit last month, with 15 Hindu villagers massacred by suspected Muslim militants on Saturday.

Vajpayee also described as "delusional" any suggestion that Indian security forces in Kashmir were fed up and weakened after five decades of tension and insurgency in the region.

"India is fully capable of defending its territories. We can never accept terrorism and Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India."

Vajpayee's two-day summit with Musharraf last month was the first high-level Indo-Pakistan contact in more than two years.

The summit ended acrimoniously as the bitter issue of Kashmir prevented the two sides from agreeing on a formal blueprint for future talks.

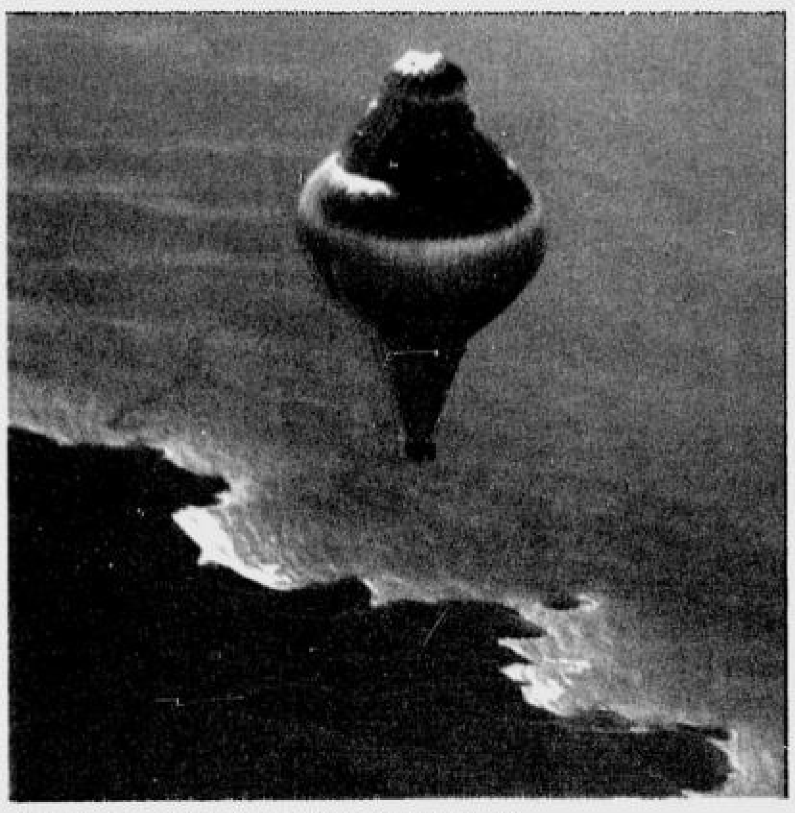
However, Vajpayee and his foreign minister, Jaswant Singh, both accepted invitations to visit Pakistan at a later date.

"We are still ready for talks, but Pakistan must end cross-border terrorism. I believe if Pakistan wants, it can stop these incidents of terrorism," Vajpayee told parliament.

"We will hold talks... but not at the cost of sacrificing our interests."

Kashmir is divided between India and Pakistan and claimed by both. The insurgency in the territory has claimed at least 35,000 lives since its launch in 1989.

Pakistan, which puts the toll at 70,000, denies Indian charges that it is behind the "cross-border terrorism" but backs what it calls Kashmiris' legitimate struggle for self-determination. *AFP*



US adventurer Steve Fosset flies his balloon, the Solo Spirit, over the east coast of Australia at Port Macquarie, midway between Sydney and Brisbane, as he heads out to sea Aug. 7. REUTERS

Balloonist heads toward Pacific Ocean

SYDNEY—US adventurer Steve Fossett on Tuesday entered one of the more perilous stages of his solo round-the-world balloon flight, heading over the South Pacific where storms wrecked a previous bid and nearly killed him.

The millionaire former stockbroker took longer than expected to cross the vast Australian continent since setting off on Sunday morning from the western town of Northam in his latest attempt to be the first person to balloon solo around the world.

Fossett said the slow pace posed a few problems.

"Although I'm pretty much on track in terms of direction, the course is slow... (and) I'm quite concerned that we don't have enough oxygen on board," he said just before heading out to sea.

"It's such a long flight there's so many things that could go wrong from here." *Reuters*

WORLDBRIEFS

More Jewish settlers

JERUSALEM—The number of Jewish settlers living on Palestinian territory in the West Bank and Gaza Strip swelled by 5,000 in the first half of the year, the interior ministry said Tuesday. There are now 208,000 settlers living on land occupied by the Jewish state in the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, although the ministry said the growth rate had slowed to 2.4 percent from 7 percent for the same period in 2000. It attributed the slow-down to the Palestinian uprising, or intifada, which erupted last September and which has led to an increase in attacks on the controversial settlements, which the Palestinians want to see abandoned. *AFP*

Brazil's Jorge Amado, 88

AMADO

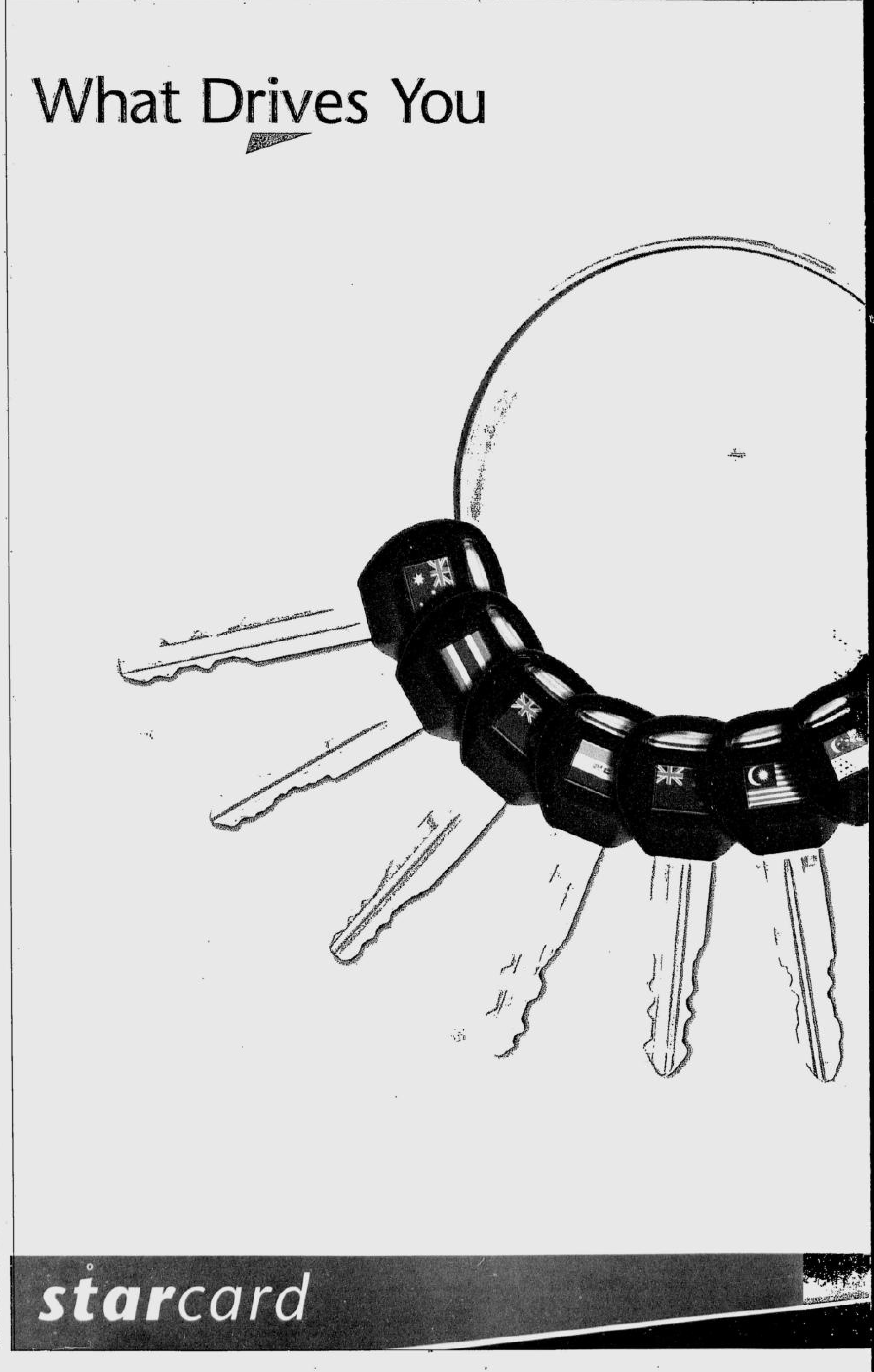
RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil—Jorge Amado, the best-selling author in Brazil's history who enchanted readers worldwide with his good-humored and lusty tales, has died of heart and lung failure, hospital officials said. He was 88. Amado, who suffered from diabetes, was admitted to the Alianca Hospital Monday afternoon after feeling ill and died at around 7:30 p.m. local time, said a spokesman at the hospital in northeastern city of Salvador da Bahia. Born in 1912 on a cocoa plantation in the state of Bahia, Amado is Brazil's all-time best-selling author, with 32 books translated into 48 languages, from Albanian to Vietnamese. Two of his novels—"Gabriela, Clove and Cinnamon" and "Dona Flor and Her Two Husbands"—were made into TV series and movies, both starring sultry Brazilian actress Sonia Braga. *AP*

Suharto son linked to slay

JAKARTA—Indonesian police said two suspects had confessed on Tuesday to assassinating a Supreme Court judge last month on the orders of "Tommy" Hutomo Mandala Putera, the fugitive son of former dictator, Suharto. Tommy has been on the run since November, two months after the judge sentenced him to 18 months in prison for corruption in a multimillion-dollar land scam. *AP*

Khatami to be sworn in

TEHRAN—Iran's reformist-dominated parliament has ended its standoff with the conservative-controlled judiciary, opening the way for reformist President Mohammad Khatami to be invested Wednesday to his second and final four-year term. The move came Tuesday morning, when the parliament approved by a relative majority two candidates for the Guardians Council, which supervises elections and examines laws to ensure their compatibility with the constitution and with Islamic precepts. In a first vote Tuesday, deputies had rejected by an absolute majority four candidates to the traditionally hard-line council submitted by the chief of the judiciary, Ayatollah Mahmoud Hashemi Shahroudi. It was parliament's refusal over the weekend to approve candidates to the council presented by Shahroudi that led to Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, postponing Khatami's swearing-in, originally set for Sunday. *AFP*



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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

ERUPTION WARNING

Mayon Volcano acts up anew

LEGAZPI CITY—Government volcanologists yesterday confirmed another explosive-type of eruption of Mayon Volcano is possible but did not say how intense it will be.

The nearly continuous jetting and roaring sounds reflected as background tremors in the seismograph resumed shortly before 9 a.m., the latest report of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology said.

Ted Sandoval, Phivolcs staff member at the Liñgon Hill observatory, said the roars were intermittently heard from their place.

"But much more continued at a vantage point, about eight kilometers from the summit in the southeast portion of the volcano," Sandoval said.

"An expulsion of incandescent lava fragments up to 100 meters above the crater rim, which were recorded as harmonics, was observed with some fragments dropping toward the Bonga Gully," he said.

Sandoval said the seismic network recorded nine rockfall-related high-frequency harmonic tremors, 12 low-frequency volcanic quakes, and seven low-frequency brief harmonic tremors associated with shallow magma movement.

The Phivolcs said the crater glow was observed to be faint to fairly visible during the past 24-hour observation period.

It noted that the volcano's edifice remained slightly inflated and ground deformation measurements indicated a slight inflationary trend in the lower slopes, possibly caused by the intrusion of new magma.

The sulfur dioxide emission rate was high at 3,999 tons per day, which reflected stronger degassing activity.

Because of the recurrence of the roaring sounds with associated tremors, alert level 5 was maintained.

"Observations indicated stepped-up volcanic activity and the possibility of a sudden powerful explosion cannot be discounted," Sandoval said.

Cedric Daep, chief of the Provincial Disaster Management Office, repeated his warning to farmers and residents not to venture inside the permanent danger zone and the 7-km extended danger zone in the southeastern sector of the volcano.

"But outside the two zones, I'm confident they are not in danger," Daep said.

Rey Nasol, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

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SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 23° Lo 16°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 21°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 29° Lo 22°
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Calapan	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 34° Lo 24°
Bacolod	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 30° Lo 24°
Roxas	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 24°
Tacloban	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 33° Lo 26°
Gen. Santos	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Zamboanga	Partly Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 23°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 32° Lo 23°
Davao	Cloudy with Rains	Hi 31° Lo 25°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/08/08/01

ROUNDUP

45 dogs for execution

BACOLOD CITY—Forty-five stray dogs will be executed by lethal injection at the Bacolod City Pound if the owners do not claim them by today. City veterinarian Adelo Daroy said his office had already executed 556 of the 794 stray dogs caught from January to June. Owners have claimed 238 dogs, he added. To claim their pets, dog owners must pay P40 as poundage fee for every day their dog stayed at the city pound. If they fail to present a vaccination certificate, the dog owners will also pay the city pound P50.

Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau

Businessman hangs self

CEBU CITY—A Filipino-Chinese businessman killed himself on Saturday inside his room in St. Michael Village, Barangay Banilad here. His wife and three sons found Rolando Go, 49, and one of the owners of London Biscuit, hanging from a nylon cord attached to the ceiling. PO3 Desiderio Mendaros of the Cebu City Police Office homicide section, said Elizabeth Go told them her husband was suffering from manic depression. Many businessmen here were shocked of Go's death. Go, who also owns several bakeries, was involved with a project of Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal that provides food to poor churchgoers every Sunday.

Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau

Cops arrest 4 addicts

DUMAGUETE CITY—Police arrested on Sunday four men for using banned drugs in Barangay Calindagan here. Arrested during a raid were brothers Hanzel, Fidel and Fernando Jabel and Antonio Cabanas. They were arrested at a nipa hut inside the LandMaster bus terminal after residents called the police. The policemen allegedly caught the suspects having a pot-session and seized drug paraphernalia from them. The suspects are detained at the Dumaguete City Police Headquarters.

Alex V. Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau

Chavit ally elected

NARVACAN, Ilocos Sur—Mayor Jesus Bueno Jr. of Santa town was elected president of the mayors' league of Ilocos Norte. Bueno, an ally of former Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson, ran unopposed in the league's elections last week. Bueno succeeded Vigan City Mayor Eva Marie Singson Medina who was disqualified from running after Vigan became a component city last January.

Leoncio Balbin Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Road to be inaugurated

DAVAO CITY—Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong will inaugurate today a 65-kilometer road project that links the provinces of Compostela Valley and Davao Oriental. The road starts in Crossing Papag, Barangay San Alfonso in Cateel, Davao Oriental, and ends near the Osmeña Bridge in Compostela Valley. The road project, which has nine semi-permanent bailey bridges, costs P215.1 million. Officials led by Davao Oriental Gov. Ma. Elena Palma Gil and Compostela Valley Gov. Jose Caballero said they are positive the project would spur the economic growth of the two provinces.

Joselle Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Village head nabbed

DAVAO CITY—Operatives of the Special Operation Response Team arrested on Friday the barangay chair of Callawa in Buhangin District here after he was allegedly caught with a sachet of methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu and illegal drug paraphernalia inside a hotel room here. Jorge Tajo, 39, was earlier reported to have gone berserk inside his room at the Quality Plaza Inn after learning about his P5,672 hotel bill. Tajo reportedly destroyed some hotel property. But when arrested, a sachet of shabu was allegedly confiscated from him.

Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Stray bullet kills girl

DAVAO CITY—A 5-year-old girl was killed while her elder sister was wounded when a member of the Citizens Armed Forces Geographical Unit accidentally fired his firearm in Barangay Pandaitan, Paquibato District here on Thursday night. Killed was Honey Mae Balbuesa, while her sister Gretchen, 10, was in critical condition at the Davao Medical Center. Reports said that a stray bullet hit the victims, who were sleeping in a nearby house.

Anthony S. Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

'Jueteng' employees nabbed

LINGAYEN, Pangasinan—The Department of Interior and Local Government arrested 40 jueteng employees and bet collectors in Calasiao town on July 28. Agents of the DILG's special operations group Oplan Jericho searched a compound in Poblacion Oeste where a draw on the illegal numbers game was being held. Reports said the government team confiscated 'jueteng' paraphernalia, a radio transceiver and P6,720 bet money from the suspects.

Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Bicol students stage class boycott

Protesters demand ouster of 6 'incompetent' professors

BY JOANNA BERNAL
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LEGAZPI CITY—Students of the Bicol University Institute of Communication and Cultural Studies began boycotting their classes on Monday to ask for the ouster of six professors whom they alleged to be incompetent and corrupt.

In a manifesto, the protesters said the "professors' integrity and credibility" had crumbled and thus, they were "no longer fit to teach."

They accused the professors of neglect of duties on various occasions and misconduct, including "irregularity in attendance, texting in class, malevolent remarks and obnoxious behavior."

The professors are also facing administrative cases after being implicated in a scandalous on-the-job training of journalism students in Metro Manila last year.

"We will not settle for anything than expulsion (of these professors). This is just our first day of protest. If our demands shall not be met in five days there will be a bigger protest backed by concerned university organizations and the faculty association," Anthony Lorcha, student council chair, said.

Emiliano Aberin, university president, who was accused of "whitewashing" the case, assured the protesters that their demands would be looked into but insisted that it was too "early and premature" to convict the six professors.

He identified them as Alex Nepomuceno, Agnes Jacob-Nepomuceno, Emelyn Barcia, Josefina Narvaez, Shirley Maloles and Rogelio Ador.

Aberin stressed that the professors deserve due process and that his office would announce a decision within two weeks.

The university official filed an administrative case against the faculty members, but the protesters said this was not in consonance with findings of a committee that the six were guilty of 11 counts of violation during the training, ranging from "negligence to collection of exorbitant fees."

According to them, only charges of discourtesy and neglect of duty were filed.

Aberin said he could have made a wrong decision on the administrative case and suggested to have it elevated to the Board of Regents if the students will not be satisfied with the action taken by his office.

The professors demanded from the students their criteria for ruling their incompetence. They said the students should have complained when they were asked to comment on the syllabus they had presented.

The teachers said they do not deserve to be ridiculed, particularly, now that they are powerless to answer their accusations.

"Competency is very subjective. If the students feel that we faculty here are incompetent or not competent enough to perform the duties of a teacher or of a professor, then they should have channeled their complaints through proper authorities. There is the dean, the dean for academic affairs. They should not be brought in the streets because we are in (a) scholastic environment and we are in academic pursuits. So propriety should always be practiced," one of the accused said.

Black bugs attack S. Leyte ricefields

SOGOD, Southern Leyte—Malaysian rice black bugs destroyed at least 600 hectares of palay in the province's six southern towns, affecting more than 2,000 farmers, a report of the Department of Agriculture here showed.

The report identified the towns as Sogod, Libangon, Bontoc, Tomas Oppus, Malitbog and Padre Burgos.

Worst hit by the infestation was Libagon where about 300 hectares of palay were destroyed.

The report said the black bugs were first detected in December when they attacked a rice land in Sogod. The infestation immediately spread to Libagon and the adjoining towns.

The bugs were reported heading westward toward Maasin City, where about 50 hectares of rice land is found.

Known to reproduce quickly, the insects destroy rice plants by constantly nibbling at the stalks. The bugs are often unnoticeable until they have caused considerable damage.

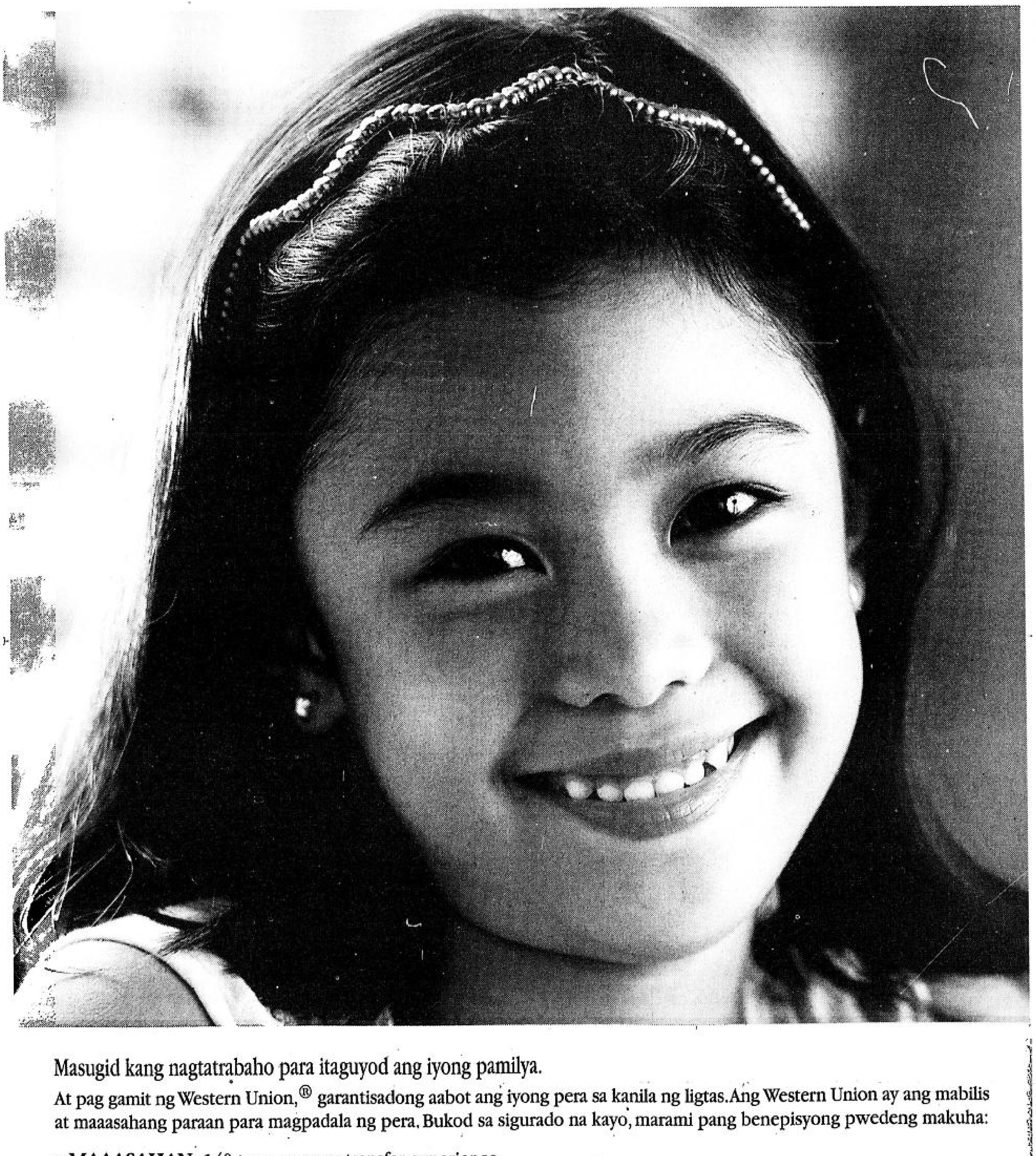
An agriculture field team has been making the rounds in the affected areas, advising farmers to use nonchemical spray and light trap operation, among other methods, to prevent the bugs from spreading.

Like moths, bugs are attracted to strong light. To trap the bugs, farmers use electric bulbs or Petromax lamps, which are placed in basins filled with water mixed with an insecticide solution.

Southern Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias said the province had allocated about P50,000 for the purchase of 500-watt light traps.

The Provincial Agriculture Office also received 12 500-watt light traps.

Jani Arnaiz, PDI Visayas Bureau



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Solcom slams group on rights abuse charges

BY DELFIN T. MALLARI JR.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—The head of the military's Southern Luzon Command based in Camp Guillermo Nakar here has belied reports of widespread human rights violations committed by government soldiers deployed in Mindoro Oriental.

Maj. Gen. Narciso Abaya, Solcom commander, said the reported alleged victims of human rights violations—anti-mining activist Erwin Bacarra and Emmanuel "Eman" Florendo, a suspected New People's Army rebel—were actually casualties in a "legitimate encounter."

"As far as the report I got, it was a legitimate encounter. There was indeed an encounter in Naujan town on Aug. 1 and according to the report, two alleged NPA rebels were killed," he said.

"But be that as it may, I still sent some of my officers and men to investigate the allegations," he added.

Abaya said the soldiers recovered two .45 cal. pistols from the two victims after the clash.

A human rights group based in Mindoro reported that on Aug. 1, a group of Scout Rangers led by a certain 1Lt. Phillip Paul Fortuno allegedly killed Bacarra and Florendo in Sitio Maulawaan, Barangay Montelago, in Naujan.

The victims bore signs of torture, according to Karapatan-Mindoro Oriental.

Abaya chided the human rights organization, saying he cannot understand how and where the group got the supposed statistics to back up its claims of abuses committed by soldiers in the area.

"They are all lies," he said.

He added: "Yes, we admit that there was an incident last year in Victoria where civilians became victims of abuses committed by some soldiers. But lately, we have asked the secretary of justice to expedite the resolution of the case."

"*May mga nangyayari talaga* (there are really incidents), but not as widespread as reported in the papers. What these human rights organizations wanted is to for us to get out of Mindoro so that the rebels could continue their activities," Abaya added.

Nancy Rada, secretary general of Karapatan-Mindoro Oriental, had said her group recorded 51 cases of alleged human rights violations since the Philippine Army was deployed on the island in May.

Abaya said pulling out troops from Mindoro was not part of the military's plan.

Canadian firm raises concern over report

A CANADIAN mining firm yesterday clarified that it was not responsible for the death of Erwin Bacarra, who was reported by the INQUIRER yesterday to be a "staunch opponent of the Canadian mining firm, Crew Minerals Philippines."

In a letter, Jon Steen Petersen, vice president for exploration of Crew Development Corp., voiced his company's concern for what the newspaper article insinuated.

"It is more than a concern to us that the article insinuates that Mr. Bacarra's death was in some way connected to his opposition to Crew and the cancellation of the Mineral Production Sharing Agreement," Petersen said in his letter.

"In fact, circumstances of his death in your newspaper report is in no way related to his alleged anti-mining activities," Petersen added.

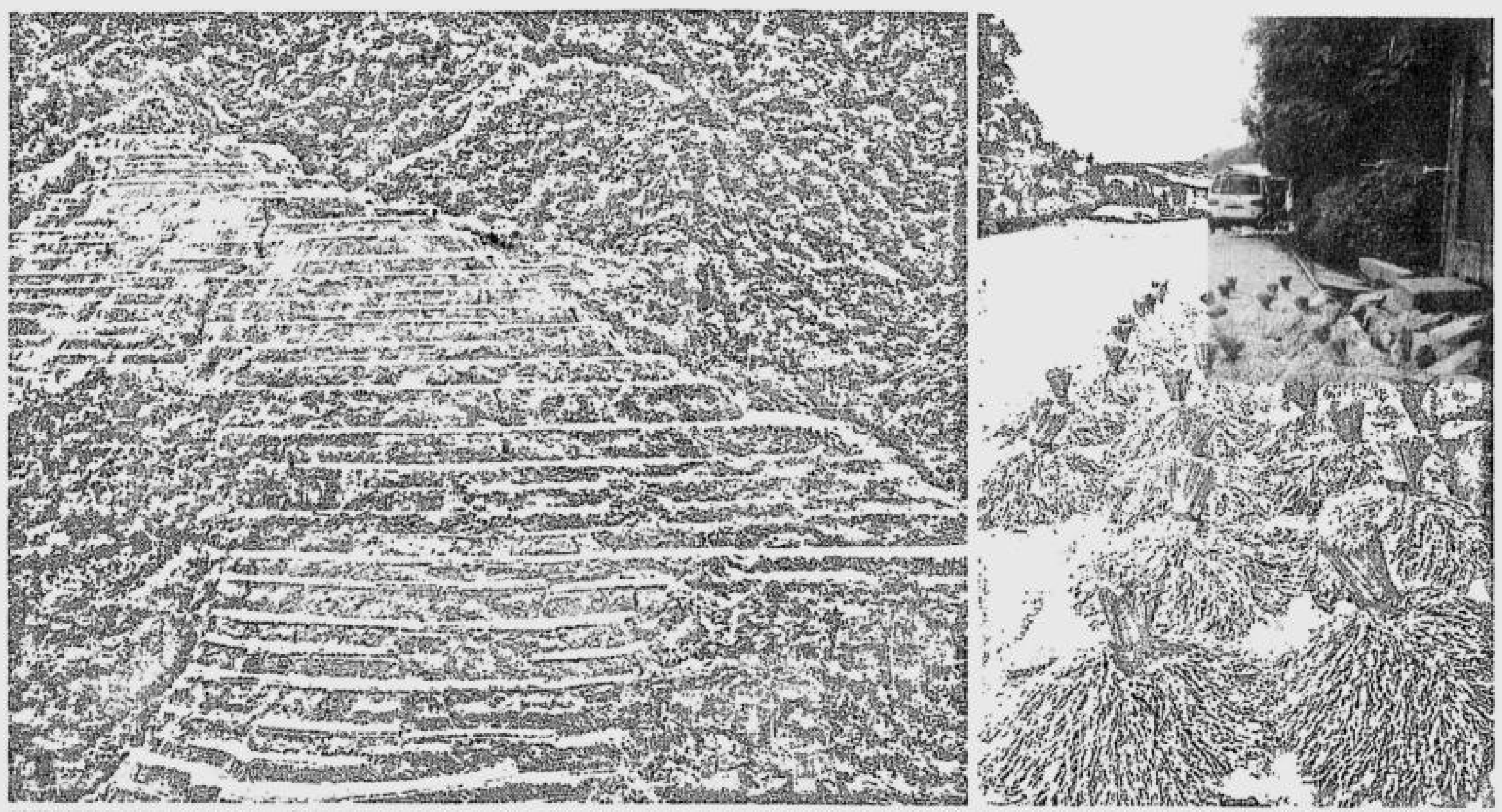
In the article, Mindoro's human rights group leader Nancy Rada was quoted as saying Bacarra was allegedly tortured and killed by government soldiers on Aug. 1 in Naujan town in Oriental Mindoro.

INQUIRER Northern Luzon
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor ■ ROLANDO B. FERNANDEZ, Bureau Chief

Ifugaos should stand up for their rice

BY FRANK CIMATU
Baguio City

IN FRONT of the fabled Ibaloi warrior Apo Anno's mummy in Barangay Nabalicong in Buguias, Benguet, anthropologist Jesus Peralta argued that the rice terraces in Ifugao came before the rice. I told him that that thought was almost sacrilegious.



THE VERDANT rice terraces (left) of Battad in Ifugao; bundles of native unhusked rice are dried by the roadside in Banaue. PHOTOS BY TOOTS SOBERANO

Peralta went on to explain that the terraces were already existing when rice was introduced in the Philippines and that the terraces were used to grow *gabi* or yam.

The terraces were said to have been built about 2,000 years ago. So when Christ was born and the Romans were building their aqueducts in Europe, the Ifugaos were planting rice or yams.

More astonishing, however, is that the aqueducts are no longer used, but the Ifugao terraces are still being maintained by the hardy natives. Despite centuries of tilling, the soil remains as productive as ever. This is what anthropologists call hydraulic civilization at its best.

And rice has become central to Ifugao life. It has become something more than food. Ever since it has replaced yams in the terraces, rice has become the medium of exchange, power and subsistence.

Your status in Ifugao is linked to the volume of rice you have harvested, and how many terraces you have and have acquired.

Inhospitable

The Ifugao terrain is very inhospitable and how Ifugaos have transformed steep mountains and deep ravines into verdant fields shows how cohesive and ritualistic the Ifugaos of old were.

Some of the terraces reach an altitude of 5,000 feet; at that level, rice crops do not thrive well. The Ifugaos' knowledge of hydraulics and masonry made them create the world's most extraordinary system of rice terracing.

But to some people now, the rice terraces, particularly in Banaue, Ifugao, mean tourism. We think of the postcards with a costumed Ifugao in the background and the words "Stairways to the Sky" emblazoned on the top.

"We are beginning to forget that the rice terraces are all about agriculture," said Ifugao Gov. Teodoro Baguilat Jr.

When the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization listed the Ifugao rice terraces as a World Heritage site in 1995, it was the Department of Tourism that made the initiatives.

The rice terraces were the fourth of such marvel to be listed by Unesco.

The Ifugao Terraces Commission was formed and among its proposals were planting flowers in the terraces and building an airport near Banaue.

Another was to paint the rooftops in the town green or brown so that the glint of galvanized iron roofs would not distract the tourists.

"The residents would not want to comply because they felt they were excluded from the planning," Baguilat said.

Cable cars

Even the recent plan of Banaue Mayor Tito Candelario to install cable cars across the scenic town caters more to tourists than to Ifugao residents.

Of course, politics has also intruded.

The ITC was almost turned into a Cordillera Terraces Commission to include the terraces in other provinces. In March last year, then President Joseph Estrada issued Executive Order 77 creating the Banaue Rice Terraces Task Force (BRTTF) to replace the ITC.

"The task force should be cochaired by the agriculture secretary but that wasn't the case. They (national leaders) don't look at the rice terraces as a cultural icon but in terms of economic yield," Baguilat said.

In terms of return of investments, the rice terraces are indeed a losing proposition, the governor conceded.

The rice being produced is only one cropping, that is why *tinawon* (the rice of the gods, as Ifugaos would call it) means "every year."

Other local varieties are the *bukig*, *biit* and *bayag*, which usually mature in six to eight months. The average yield is only 35 cavans per hectare, but then these varieties are aromatic and non-shattering enough to produce the *baya* or the Ifugao rice wine.

The ITC has not also attracted investments after six years.

Even the Central Cordillera Agricultural Program (Cecap), the biggest agricultural conduit in the region which is set to be phased out in 2003, has set up a zoning plan where only the upper and middle parts of the terraces are plotted for rice cultivation.

The zoning plan states that the terraces' lower portions are for the high-yielding varieties.

Extinction

Baguilat said population pressure and woodcarving were further converting the province's "Stairways to the Sky" into the "Stairways to Extinction."

The low growth rate of Ifugao is deceiving because it does not mean that the birth rate is low, Baguilat said. It only shows that Ifugao is an outmigration area. Young Ifugaos are going to Cagayan, Isabela and Quirino where agricultural tracts are wider.

The lure of vegetable gardening is also creeping in from Mt. Province. In Tinoc town at the foot of Mt. Pulag, some of the rice terraces have been turned into vegetable beds, Baguilat said. Vegetable gardening means that the beds are drained and the age-old Ifugao knowledge of hydraulics is unlearned.

Banaue people are known for their woodcarving skills, but to create those legions of saluting Indians, men-in-the-barrel, eagles flapping wings and even the modern variations of the Ifugao rice god *bul-ul*, they have almost decimated the watershed that nourished the terraces for 2,000 years.

Baguilat said he planned to put priority to agriculture and culture on the BRTTF agenda.

He said the recent declaration by the Unesco of the Ifugao epic *hudhud*, sung by women during harvest, as among the world's living heritage should be a clear signal that rice and the terraces are bound to the Ifugao culture.

The Department of Agriculture has developed rice varieties like the PSB RC 92 (Sagada), PSB RC 94 (Hungduan) and PSB RC 96 (Ibulao) that can withstand the cold weather, but Baguilat said they have yet to see these varieties.

"If that is the only way to save the terraces, then bring us these," Baguilat said.

But also at the back of Baguilat's mind is: "Will Sagada, Hungduan and Ibulao produce the same aromatic and heady *baya* as the *tinawon*?"

I remember drinking my first *baya* 10 years ago in Barangay Battad, and as we stumbled back to our host's house, the fireflies on the rice terraces lit our way.

If the rice terraces keep on deteriorating, we may find ourselves looking below the cable car and at the dried-up terraces and painted roofs and ask ourselves: What's the point of all these?

'How come we never got to learn it from gov't?'

BY TONETTE OREJAS
Zambales

THE RAINS stir more fear now in Elisa Novo. The 38-year-old Aeta woman turns fidgety when rains dump water on Mt. Pinatubo, some 30 kilometers east of where she lives at the Loob Bunga resettlement in Botolan, Zambales.

Rains and lahar are like inseparable twins, she says. But of late, there's nothing ordinary in the thought of those risks, she adds.

The more it rains, the more the crater-lake of Pinatubo is filled up. And Loob Bunga, like 11 other Botolan villages, happens to be where the lowest notch of the volcano is facing, Novo notes.

All these villages, although nestled on high ground, are along the Balin-Baquero-Bucao River, now brimming with volcanic debris, where water and lahar are going to gush in case of a breach or overflow.

Novo says she never fully grasped the certainty or the gravity of this scenario until July when geologist Kelvin Rodolfo sounded off the need for community preparations.

The water at the crater-lake, according to Rodolfo, was only less than five meters below the lowest rim in mid-July.

Breaching

The breaching, expected to occur during severe weather, could release up to 60 million cubic meters of floodwater and, at most, move again 300 million cu. m. of lahar.

If based on the speed by which lahar rolled down Botolan during typhoon "Kadiang" in 1993, as documented by geologist Cristina Remotigue, lahar remobilized by the breaching could reach the town, 40 km from Pinatubo, in less than two hours.

Lake breaching proved to be fatal to human lives. In 1995 in South Cotabato, Mt. Parker's crater burst, releasing 30 million cu. m. of water and killing at least 80 people.

Rodolfo's projections, supported by a study commissioned by the development agency Oxfam Great Britain, reached Novo last week through the Zambales Disaster Response Network (ZDRN), a nongovernment organization.

"All the while we did not know this (the rapid rise of water) was happening fast. How come we never got to learn it from government?" Novo asks.

Many Aetas and lowland settlers did not know the real condition of the crater because they have taken abode away from the 10-km permanent radius zone, she says.

Particular attention, she adds, must go to the villages of Villar, Maguisgis, Burgos, Malomboy and Poonbato in the upper flanks where some 2,000 Aeta families have returned for lack of farms to till in the resettlement areas.

Novo remembers hearing Dr. Raymundo Punongbayan, chief of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology, warn about the same problem on radio.

"Breaching must always be on their minds," Punongbayan had said.

She cannot recall, however, that the provincial disaster coordinating council has reached out to the communities to tell them the details and to gather the residents to plan together.

"Information is life and it does not come fast and it stops up there," she observes, referring to the practice of public officials in not disclosing full information on matters that affect public interests and in developing an attitude of complacency than vigilance toward natural hazards.

Information, she adds, is too important, especially for Aetas who, unlike her and a few others, have not completed elementary education, much less the basic of reading and writing.

Information on the lake's problems, available since late last year, remained confined among government authorities, documents obtained by the INQUIRER showed.

For instance, Nippon Koei, a Japanese engineering consulting firm, presented its findings and recommendations to the Department of Public Works and Highways in December last year.

The result of that study, conducted by Dr. Kimio Inoue, became the subject of two memorandums by Public Works Assistant Secretary Florante Soriquez for Secretary Simeon Datumanong in June this year.

"It is most likely that the crater-lake will overtop the Maraunot Notch and water will then flow to Maraunot River down to Bucao River and China Sea. This even could happen this year," Soriquez said in his June 1 memorandum for Datumanong.

This part is vital to the public: "A bleak scenario would be a breach in the Maraunot Notch followed by a flash flood bringing with it the 200 million cu. m. of water which would cause lahar materials to overtop the Bucao Bridge along the Olongapo-Lingayen Coastal Road and cover a settlement area and the barangays adjacent to the river."

Soriquez said Inoue's study "confirmed that the situation of the river wall of the crater is becoming serious."

While the anticipated problems have become more real than it was 10 years ago when the lake began forming, Soriquez or even DPWH officials in Central Luzon could not be remembered disseminating Inoue's findings to local government officials or reporters.

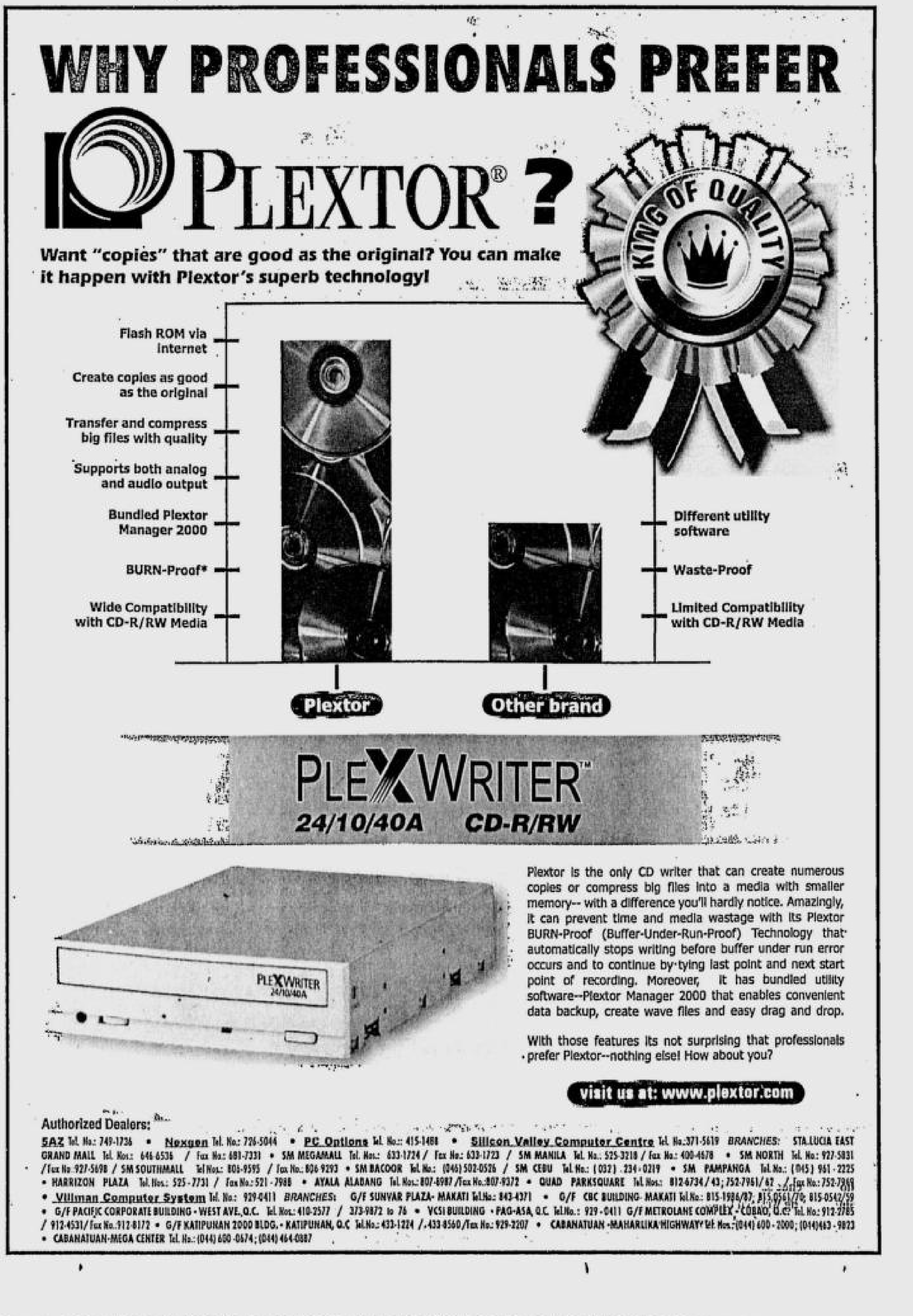
And when they so decide to take action, these come with an alarming delay.

It was only on July 2, the start of the rainy season, that engineers from the regional DPWH's Bureau of Design advised Soriquez on the need to do a flooding hazard analysis with Phivolcs.

The results of the analysis will be disseminated to the possible affected municipalities and barangays "in preparation of the worst scenario," the engineers said in a memorandum.

Reporters got only bits of information from Punongbayan because, as it turned out later, it was not the Phivolcs that led the study and that it was merely consulted or was a member of the study team.

Phivolcs, the principal government agency that saved lives through timely and correct warning in the harrowing days of June 1991, appeared not to be on top of the situation this time. Its scant resources—P91 million this year—has limited the agency's capability to monitor Pinatubo.



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Lacson gives Corpus authority to withdraw

(From page A1)

oversee the withdrawal.

"Whatever (Corpus) withdraws, he can keep," Ejercito said in an interview.

Lacson reiterated that the supposed bank accounts were "nonexistent."

He cited a South China Morning Post report stating that Citibank Hong Kong had issued a statement denying that Ejercito and Lacson had $500 million in deposits.

He said he issued the special power of attorney to "expedite everything" and to end the charges and counter charges between him and Corpus, chief of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp).

Lacson said that with his move, he had finally "cornered" Corpus.

"He has nowhere to go now that he has released the bank account numbers," the senator said.

He also said he was seeing the hand of Malacañang in Corpus' exposé.

"The slip is showing now. Whose slip? I think her slip," he said, apparently referring to President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Earlier in the day, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez dared Lacson and Ejercito to authorize the government to look into the alleged dollar accounts that Corpus had exposed.

"The best thing to do to put the issue to rest is for Senators Lacson and Ejercito to issue an authorization . . . to allow us to go to the bank and verify the said accounts," he said.

Perez also said that the authorization would allow the government to identify the supposed bank official who had earlier denied the existence of the Lacson accounts.

Without the authorization, the government has to rely on local courts to issue a subpoena, Perez said.

"Unless there is a subpoena, we cannot (look into the accounts). But the problem is (that) a subpoena is effective only in the Philippines, so other methods of discovery should be used, such as a written interrogatory," he said.

Assistance

As regards the other supposed Lacson accounts in the United States, Perez said the Philippines could invoke the RP-US mutual assistance treaty in criminal cases.

"I don't know to what extent the US government would help considering that it has the Rico (Racketeering-Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) Act of 1970 . . . and considering that we are being asked by many countries, including the US, to enact our own version of the anti-money laundering act," Perez said.

However, he said, it would be difficult to verify the supposed accounts in Hong Kong and Canada because the Philippines had no similar treaty with the two countries.

"Let me put it this way: We don't know yet how the Hong Kong government will react," Perez said.

He added: "Colonel Corpus should make representations with the Hong Kong government as to whether it is willing to assist (us in the probe). While we have an agreement with the Hong Kong government concerning mutual cooperation in the investigation and deportation of criminals, we don't know whether it is willing to assist us in uncovering alleged money-laundering activities being done through Hong Kong."

Perez said Corpus should also make representations with the Canadian government.

"I understand that the resistance is coming from the (Canadian) banks because (they) are protecting their own clients. They are afraid that there could be a massive withdrawal of deposits if they reveal any deposit that they have in their possession," he said.

Questionable means

Senators John Osmeña and Vicente Sotto have filed resolutions seeking an investigation of the allegedly questionable means by which Corpus obtained his information, as well as the source of the money that financed the operations of the police-military intelligence team led by the Isafp chief.

In his resolution, Osmeña asked the Senate committees on national defense and security and on finance to look into the intrusion of the Isafp into the functions" of the Philippine National Police intelligence group.

He pointed out in an interview that "money laundering, illegal drug trading, kidnapping for ransom, and robbery are matters for the PNP," and that "the jurisdiction of the Isafp is matters of security in respect to the defense of the state."

"We would like to see where they got the money," Osmeña added in reference to the P3 million that supposedly financed the intelligence team's trip to the US. "Did the money that they spent come from the intelligence funds of the AFP, PNP, or the contingent fund of the President?"

Osmeña also said the Senate "cannot allow the military to blackmail us and manufacture charges against us."

"Nobody here is going to be free. We will be held hostage and we cannot discharge our functions if we will allow them to go berserk," he said.

As for Sotto, he said the operations of the Isafp in the alleged "media demolition job" had left him "very afraid" and "frightened."

Defenders

Lacson's other defenders came out swinging yesterday.

At the House, Minority Floor Leader Carlos Padilla (Nueva Vizcaya) assailed the military for "misallocation of military resources" in its alleged efforts to "spy (on) and harass opposition stalwarts."

He demanded to know whether the AFP was suffering from "selective" intelligence gathering or was just targeting Lacson.

Padilla pointed out that instead of focusing intelligence efforts at gathering more information on the Abu Sayyaf, the New People's Army and crime syndicates, the military had "trained (its) guns on Lacson and the opposition."

He also chided the military for funding the fact-finding mission of the PNP intelligence team.

"While the entire country is getting a severe beating as a result of the continuing terror of the Abu Sayyaf, while innocent civilians are getting massacred and mutilated in Basilan, here we have officials going on junkets abroad," Padilla said.

Investigate Cayetano

Even fugitive Ronald Lumbao of the pro-Estrada People's Movement Against Poverty surfaced to defend Lacson and demand Corpus' resignation.

Lumbao told reporters at Max's Restaurant at the Quezon Memorial Circle that the accusations of money laundering aired against Lacson were meant to divert public attention from the bribery scandal involving First Gentleman Mike Arroyo.

Lumbao, who was tagged as one of the leaders of the so-called "Edsa Tres" and the May 1 assault on Malacañang, said the administration was determined to put Lacson in a "trial by publicity, like what they did to President Estrada."

"If Colonel Corpus really has evidence, he should have followed due process so that he would not have damaged the name of Lacson and the Senate as an institution," Lumbao said.

He called on the administration to also provide resources for the investigation of scandals involving its allies, particularly Cayetano's alleged involvement in the BW Resources scam.

He showed reporters photocopies of an Equitable Bank check worth P7.9 million that a member of Cayetano's staff allegedly received as payment from controversial businessman Dante Tan. ***With reports from Rocky Nazareno and Philip C. Tubeza***

Malacañang leaves Lacson case to Senate

By Martin P. Marfil

MALACANANG yesterday indicated that it was leaving to the Senate the matter of investigating Sen. Panfilo Lacson, who is being accused of money laundering.

Asked to comment on Lacson's charge that the investigation being conducted by intelligence units was "sloppy," Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo said: "All I am aware of is that I was watching TV yesterday and there was the interpellation of the senator. So I think it's the Senate that is handling the matter."

"I've been a senator for two terms, and we do what we think should be done," Romulo said at a press briefing.

"And I think the senators are responsible enough (to) know what they are doing, so I suppose (Lacson's) speech and the interpellation would be referred to the appropriate committee. That is within the jurisdiction of the Senate."

Romulo said the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines had conducted the investigation on its own.

Asked if Malacanang had a hand in the probe and if it had cleared the release of funds for the intelligence team, Romulo said: "No, I don't think there is any such thing."

He also said allegations that the Palace had been focusing on issues against Lacson instead of the Abu Sayyaf were baseless.

"That is misinformation because we are devoting a lot of time to Mindanao concerns, to the Abu Sayyaf," he said of the Cabinet oversight committee on internal security which he heads.

American, Canadian authorities still looking

(From page A1)

ters with the Philippines.

Frank Jenista, spokesperson of the US Embassy in Manila, said the RP-US treaty on mutual legal assistance between the Philippines and the US was being enforced.

Jenista, however, refused to comment on the status of the Philippine Department of Justice's request for information on the multimillion-dollar accounts of the Lacsons and Estradas in Citibank.

"This is a privileged communication that should be done between government to government. For the treaty to work, communication should be held privately," he told the INQUIRER in a phone interview.

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez said on Monday that he would ask again the US justice department to verify the accounts.

Perez said a similar request filed before the May 14 elections had not been acted upon.

But Jenista said such a request must have been acted upon or returned to the requesting country "for further clarification."

According to him, a request is returned if the US justice department deems that the requesting party has not complied with any of the standard requirements, such as an explanation of the case, evidence of probable cause and type of job to be done.

Once the US Department of Justice finds a requesting party had complied with all the requirements, it would then seek a court order to compel a bank to produce the pertinent records.

Jenista said the US Department of State would authenticate the bank records so these could be used in a court of law.

The documents are then sent to the requesting party.

Asked how long it would take for the US justice department to act on such a request by Perez, Jenista said: "It varies from case to case. It depends on the quality of the request."

'Do we want another criminal in Malacañang?'

(From page A1)

and Corrupt Organizations) Act in the United States.

He said that under the sharing principle, 30 percent would go to the US government; 30 percent to the Philippine government; 20 percent to the witnesses; and 20 percent to the government agencies that helped in the recovery effort.

As of July 1, the team supposedly found that the amount to be recovered was at least $273 million, in the name of Lacson and his wife Alice. This is on top of the $118 million allegedly held jointly by Lacson and deposed President Joseph Estrada in Hong Kong.

Corpus earlier said the amount deposited in US-owned banks was $728 million.

The intelligence team worked with its US counterpart on June 2-4 in Hong Kong and on June 5-July 3 in San Francisco. The INQUIRER covered the entire duration of the mission.

The Equal Justice for All Movement (E-Just), an umbrella alliance of lawyers and progressive civil-society and anti-graft groups, yesterday said private organizations based in the United States had signified willingness to provide the Philippine government documentary evidence on Lacson's supposed wealth.

E-Just also said one of its member-organizations had arrived in the United States on an evidence-gathering mission.

'Narco-state'

It was not the first time that Corpus raised the issue of having "another criminal for a President."

He pitched the same question in interviews before and when he furnished the INQUIRER a list of bank accounts held by Lacson, his wife, Estrada and Sen. Luisa Ejercito at Citibank, Bank of America and Wells Fargo.

In earlier talks with the INQUIRER, Corpus said Lacson would run for president in the 2004 election and was only using the Senate as a stepping stone.

"If Lacson wins, what will become of us? A narco-state like Colombia?" Corpus said. "When that time comes, I will again turn rebel."

Corpus has defied two presidents.

In 1970 during the time of President Ferdinand Marcos, the then Army lieutenant defected to the New People's Army, the military wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

He was arrested and imprisoned in 1976. When President Corazon Aquino assumed power in 1986, he was released and reinstated in the military service.

"Yes, I was disloyal to Marcos. But I've paid dearly for it," Corpus told the INQUIRER. "But what I did then was to be repeated more than a decade later when military officers turned their backs on Marcos, which led to Edsa I of 1986."

Corpus was referring to the "people power" uprising that led to Marcos' ouster.

According to accounts, including that of President Macapagal-Arroyo herself on the events leading to "People Power II" last January, Corpus was among the first officers who worked for the military's withdrawal of support from then President Estrada.

He was appointed Isafp chief shortly after Ms Macapagal assumed power.

"I had to again be disloyal because the Commander in Chief was a criminal," Corpus told the INQUIRER, referring to his role in People Power II.

Formal request

Colonel Chan quoted US Customs Special Agent Jerald Kawai as saying that with "the wealth of information" obtained by the intelligence team, the Philippine government could now formally request Lacson's bank records from the United States through the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty.

He said the US Customs agents wanted not only to find Lacson's supposed bank accounts—which was the team's mission—but also to go for the freezing, seizure and eventual forfeiture of the money in favor of both the US and the Philippine governments.

Chan said US authorities believed that the government-to-government recovery effort would "not in any way jeopardize" the US Customs investigation of Lacson.

"As Kawai understood Philippine jurisprudence, it is not necessary for Philippine government prosecutors to prove where Lacson's money came from as long as the government is able to prove that he did not declare these dollar accounts and properties in his yearly statements of assets and liabilities (SAL)," Chan said. "Definitely, Lacson's accounts and houses in the US were not declared in his SAL. He acquired these properties beyond his legal means."

The intelligence team, assisted by US authorities, was able to establish that apart from the bank deposits, Lacson and his wife own several houses, two freight forwarding firms and other assets in the United States, Chan said.

Chan submitted the documentary and material evidence and a post-operation report dated June 28 and titled "The Panfilo Lacson Money Laundering Investigation in the United States" to Corpus and the President.

He said the US authorities also took particular interest in the alleged drug trafficking of Lacson's group.

Corpus earlier told the INQUIRER that the "bulk" of Lacson's deposits allegedly came from drug trafficking conducted since 1992.

He said the other sources of Lacson's supposed hidden wealth were kidnapping for ransom, smuggling and bank robbery.

Inquiry

The clamor for an investigation of Lacson's alleged hidden wealth continued to escalate.

The Kilusang Mayo Uno said senators should immediately start a formal inquiry instead of trading accusations in the media.

But the E-Just aimed its call for an investigation to the Office of the Ombudsman, saying that a Senate inquiry would not help much in the criminal prosecution of Lacson.

KMU chair and Bayan Muna Representative-elect Crispin Beltran said Lacson himself should be "forced to cooperate."

"The charges against him have gone beyond the run-of-the-mill accusations, such as his being a drug and gambling lord, kidnap-for-ransom head, and executioner. Lacson can and should be nailed down on all these counts, but the pieces have finally come together in this plunder case," Beltran said.

While saying that the Ombudsman should immediately start an investigation, E-Just convenor Leonard de Vera challenged Lacson to waive, under oath, his rights and privileges under the bank secrecy law.

In this way, De Vera said, the banks would be free to disclose to the Philippine government the existence or non-existence of Lacson's alleged accounts.

Argee Guevarra of ARM the Lawyers said Lacson's "shotgun denials" during his Monday privilege speech only "shot more holes in his gaping credibility problem, which cannot be repaired by name-calling and paranoid conspiracy theories."

"Mr. Lacson is quick to raise his defense that the burden of proof rests on his accusers," Guevarra said. "But he is slow to realize that he shares the burden of disproving the grave, serious and persistent allegations of his purported involvement in smuggling, drug trafficking, kidnapping and summary executions."

'Shame'

In Cebu City, the militant group Akbayan said Lacson was "a shame to Cebuanos."

Akbayan regional coordinator Alvin Dizon urged the city council to revoke its resolution declaring the senator an adopted son of the city.

"Lacson is not a good example for Cebuanos, especially the youth," Dizon said.

Lacson was declared adopted son in the early 1990s, after city officials were impressed by his performance as chief of the Cebu Metropolitan District Command (Metrodiscom).

But Mayor Tomas Osmeña, a known friend of the senator's, said there was no need to recall the resolution because Lacson was recognized for what he did for the city when he was Metrodiscom chief.

At Camp Olivas in Pampanga, Senior Supt. Reynaldo Berroya, chief of the PNP Central Luzon command, dared Lacson to immediately take a leave of absence and "be man enough" to face an investigation.

It was Berroya, then PNP intelligence chief, who asked the Department of Justice late last year to investigate Lacson's alleged money laundering activities in the United States, Canada and Hong Kong.

He issued the challenge in noting that Lacson had not addressed the issue but had instead resorted to making blanket denials and defaming persons and organizations like the PNP and Isafp. ***With reports from Andrea Trinidad-Echavez in Manila; Jhunnex Napallacan, PDI Visayas Bureau; Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk***

Housing loans . . .

(From page A1)

fensor, who is part of the President's official delegation here, said the council board had passed a resolution increasing the ceiling on housing loans for Filipinos overseas from the present P500,000 to P2 million.

The loan is payable in five years and has a 16-percent interest per annum.

Defensor said the HUDCC realized that many OFWs want to have houses of their own when they go back to the Philippines.

Instead of waiting for these Filipinos to return to the country to build their homes, Defensor said the HUDCC would send conduits to the host countries so the overseas workers can personally apply for housing loans where they are working.

"HUDCC will cooperate with local developers to market housing projects for the OFWs through the Pag-Ibig-OFW housing program," Defensor said.

"In the meantime, we have approved a marketing blitz targeting OFWs in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Italy and the Middle East," he said.

Once the applicants fulfill the requirements, their applications will be processed and sent back to Manila.

Pag-Ibig Fund will finance the project, Defensor said.

PCGG missing . . .

(From page A1)

lost. I asked them to find the paintings," Yorac told the INQUIRER in an interview.

"I don't know how they were lost. I'm still trying to understand the basis of the report. This can't be," she added.

'Horror' stories

Yorac said the PCGG would track down people who have knowledge of the sequestration of the furniture, furnishings such as expensive vases, and other pricey belongings of the Marcoses in the US.

She said it was difficult to trace the whereabouts of the valuable paintings because they were inside residences and buildings that are now occupied by new tenants.

Yorac, who assumed the top PCGG post last July 17, had immediately ordered an intensive inventory of all records, pieces of evidence and sequestered properties in the hands of the PCGG.

She said she has heard "horror stories" of missing documents and disorderly files at the anti-Marcos agency long before she took over.

"I think it's essential to have an inventory when you're dealing with other people's properties," Yorac said, adding she expected to discover more in the course of the inventory.

The PCGG would need from three to four months to complete a check of all its files on the cases against the Marcoses and their cronies.

Red carpet for Gloria; peace deal inked in KL

(From page A1)

isters and foreign diplomats.

A military band played both the Philippine and Malaysian anthems while cannons fired 21-gun salute in the background.

Ms Macapagal, making her first state visit since assuming the presidency in January, met briefly with King Salahuddin and Mahathir at the five-star Shangri-La Hotel where she will be staying until Thursday.

After lunch, the Philippine leader was driven south to the Putrajaya administrative center where she thanked Mahathir for brokering Manila's peace deal with the MILF.

The two leaders also discussed a wide range of issues, including joint border patrol and efforts to revive the so-called East Asian Growth Area covering southern Philippines, eastern Malaysia, Brunei and northern Indonesia.

They posed for photographs before the Malaysian premier took his guest to the roof of his office for a view of the new city.

The two leaders later witnessed the signing of bilateral agreements on information technology, tourism and health.

"This (Ms Macapagal's visit) is important for both countries," Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said. "We hope it paves the way for better bilateral relations."

Ceasefire

Philippine peace negotiators, together with representatives of the MILF and MNLF, met with Ms Macapagal and Mahathir after the signing of the documents on the cessation of hostilities and on the reunification of the two Moro rebel groups.

Security was tight, and both Ms Macapagal and Mahathir did not speak to reporters.

Jesus Dureza, head of the Philippine panel, and his MILF counterpart, Al-haj Murad, signed the ceasefire agreement that set the stage for the two sides to begin talks for lasting peace in Mindanao.

The two sides on Monday postponed a ceremony to initial the deal, and they reached agreement only hours before Ms Macapagal's arrival in Malaysia.

The agreement filled in the ceasefire details of a broader pact reached in June in Libya.

"The guidelines not only silence the guns for the peace of mind of the people," the negotiators said in a joint communiqué.

"These also prohibit all public pronouncements that will tend to undermine the sincerity of credibility of both parties in waging peace," they added.

Murad said the details finalized Tuesday morning covered implementation of the ceasefire, mechanics on normalizing relations in war-ravaged Muslim regions, and security and immunity issues.

Both sides demurred when asked if the government had met a key MILF demand to withdraw troops from captured rebel camps.

More talks

Talks on economic development for Muslim areas are scheduled to begin in the first week of September.

"There are still about six or nine substantive issues to be discussed, but we think we can move forward very quickly," Dureza said.

"What was very clear was that both heads of government would work together for not only peace, but also development."

Dureza said the ceasefire accord would be implemented as soon as possible. Deal-brokers Malaysia, Libya and Indonesia will be invited to send observers.

"We have defined specific acts—such as bombing, hijacking and other terrorist acts—that will constitute a violation of the ceasefire agreement," Dureza said.

Local monitoring teams will include local officials and representatives from the rebels, non-government organizations and religious figures, Dureza said.

A higher-level coordinating committee will be made up of government and rebel leaders.

The ceasefire agreement leaves just the Abu Sayyaf as the only group still fighting for Moro independence in Mindanao. Ms Macapagal considers members of the Abu Sayyaf as bandits and refuses to negotiate with them.

The MNLF, from which the MILF broke away in 1978, made peace with Manila in 1996 in exchange for some degree of autonomy in Mindanao.

Both the Philippines and Malaysia have expressed interest in the peace agreement.

Both nations have been hit by Abu Sayyaf raiding parties seeking hostages, and bringing the much larger MILF off the battlefield should simplify the task in improving security in the waters they share.

State banquet

The Malaysian king will host a state banquet for Ms Macapagal at the palace late Tuesday.

On Wednesday, Ms Macapagal will meet Malaysian business leaders to invite them to invest in the Philippines.

Malaysia is the Philippines' eighth largest trading partner, with total bilateral trade last year amounting to more than $2.4 billion.

Ms Macapagal is also scheduled to visit the world's tallest buildings, the Petronas Twin Towers, and have dinner with the Filipino community in Malaysia.

Ms Macapagal and her entourage, including First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, left aboard a chartered Philippine Airline Airbus 320 at 6:30 a.m. amid a heavy downpour.

She described her visit to Malaysia—the first by a Philippine leader since 1993—as "a journey for peace and development in Muslim Mindanao."

She will return to the Philippines on Thursday.

She is scheduled to visit Brunei and Singapore from Aug. 22 to 26 before heading to Japan for three days next month. *With reports from TJ Burgonio, AP, AFP and Reuters*

Mike shoots, Senate probes

(From page A1)

party arrived here yesterday morning.

Mr. Arroyo apparently thought it was better to return to his old love, photography, following his first love's gag order last week.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo probably was fed up with reports linking her husband to a supposed P50-million bribery for the recall of her veto on two telecommunication franchise bills.

Last week, she was overheard telling her husband to "stop that" while he was giving a live interview over radio station dzEC shortly after his arrival from the US on Aug. 2.

And to keep Mr. Arroyo quiet, Malacañang now plans to have someone else speak for him.

But in Manila, opposition senators were not about to forget Mr. Arroyo's alleged involvement in a bribery deal arising from two telecommunications franchise bills vetoed by President Macapagal.

Yesterday, Sen. Blas Ople filed a resolution signed by eight other opposition senators to include Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, Jr. once he returns from his US trip.

The resolution directed the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee to investigate the bribery case even as Mr. Arroyo was having fun in Kuala Lumpur.

Just a tourist

"I'm going to be just a tourist here (in Kuala Lumpur). You know, I took pictures of (Malaysian Prime Minister) Mahathir (Mohamad) and his wife, the King (H.M. the Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia) and his wife. He has a beautiful wife, very young," Mr. Arroyo told reporters.

Hours after their arrival, Mr. Arroyo accompanied the President to the Shangri-La Hotel where Mahathir paid a courtesy call.

Since press coverage was not allowed, reporters thought Mr. Arroyo would be a good source of information as he was present at the meeting of the two leaders.

But the First Gentleman refused to answer questions.

"You might say I'm meddling, just ask GMA," Mr. Arroyo said in Filipino.

But he couldn't help himself. Mr. Arroyo had to say something, anyway.

In the next breath, Mr. Arroyo revealed that the President asked Mahathir whether Malaysia is interested in palm oil investments in the Philippines.

"And I think in Mindanao, they are opening around a hundred-something hectares (for palm farming). Please don't quote me. You ask GMA later on. I don't want it to come from me," he said.

Mr. Arroyo explained he did not want to be perceived as imposing policies on his wife's administration, hence his silence, albeit belated, on the affairs of the state.

Mr. Arroyo turned his attention to his camera that is equipped with a Sigma zoom lens from Hong Kong. Malaysia proved to be a good venue for his hobby.

Impressed

Mr. Arroyo also told reporters that he was very impressed with the changes in Malaysia.

"I'm so happy to be here. I didn't realize that this Malaysia has so much improvement. It's so beautiful," he exclaimed.

Asked when he was here last, Mr. Arroyo said: "I've never been here. Just 30 years ago, I was at the airport getting a connecting flight."

He joined news photographers to record the warm reception given to the President by Malaysia's key leaders at the Parliament House after her arrival.

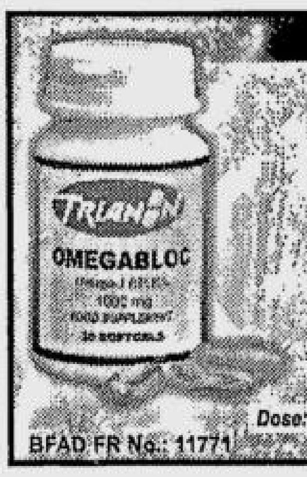
Saying he was doing it "for posterity," Mr. Arroyo nearly consumed an entire roll of film, except that he had to put down his camera during the formal ceremonies as he had to stand beside his wife.

From the Parliament House, the President proceeded to the Shangri-La Hotel where Mahathir paid a courtesy call. *(See story on Page A1)*

Curious

Administration senators welcomed Ople's Senate Resolution No. 97 but Sen. Renato Cayetano said the filing of the measure was "very curious" as he said it came at a time when the opposition was itself in the hot seat following allegations that one of its members, Sen. Panfilo Lacson, had amassed millions in dollars of hidden wealth. *(Stories on Page A1.)*

But Cayetano said it really doesn't matter whether the filing of the resolution was "out of retaliation or motivated by a desire to find out the truth," because there was now a chance to clear the (bribery) controversy.



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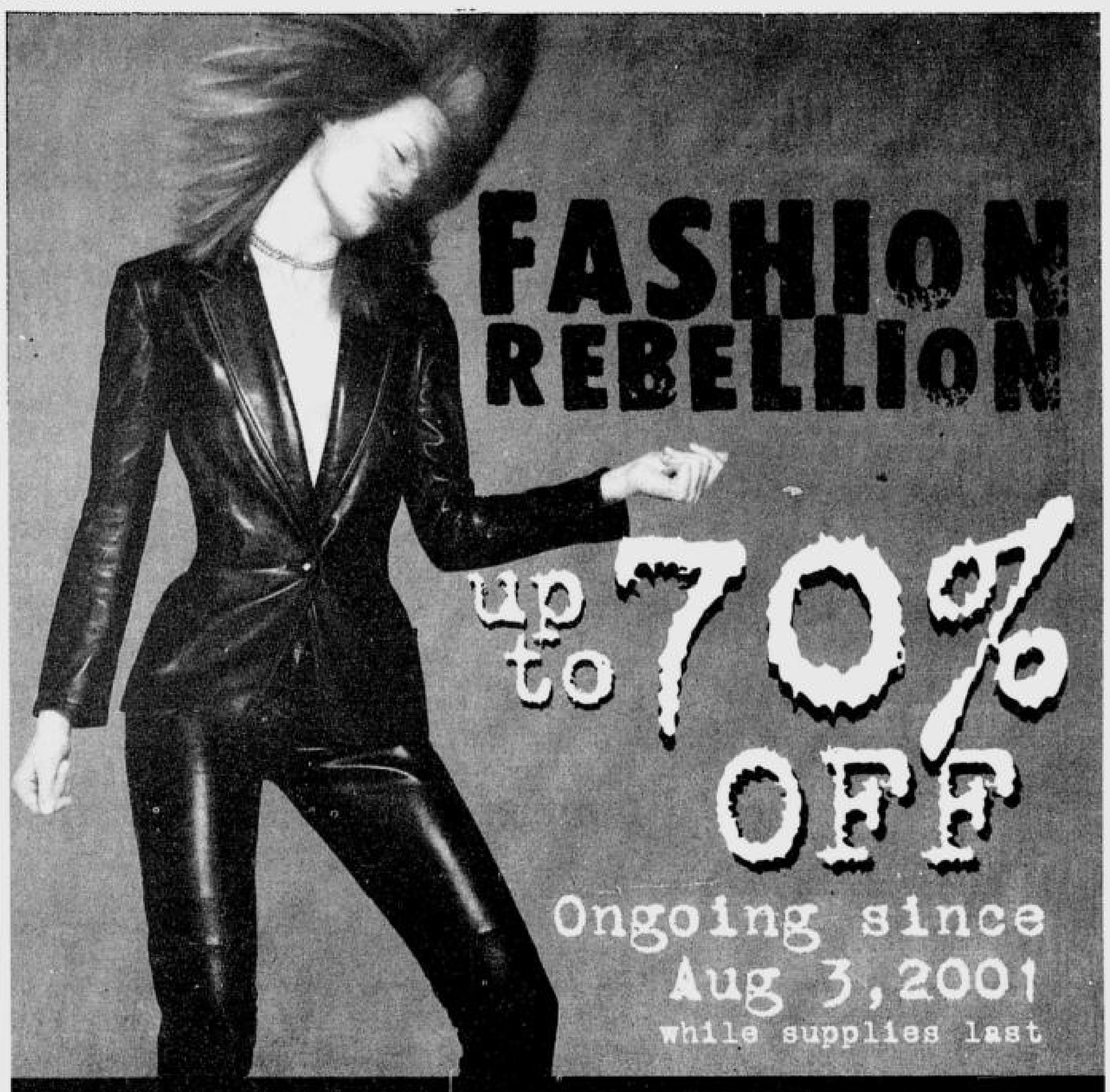

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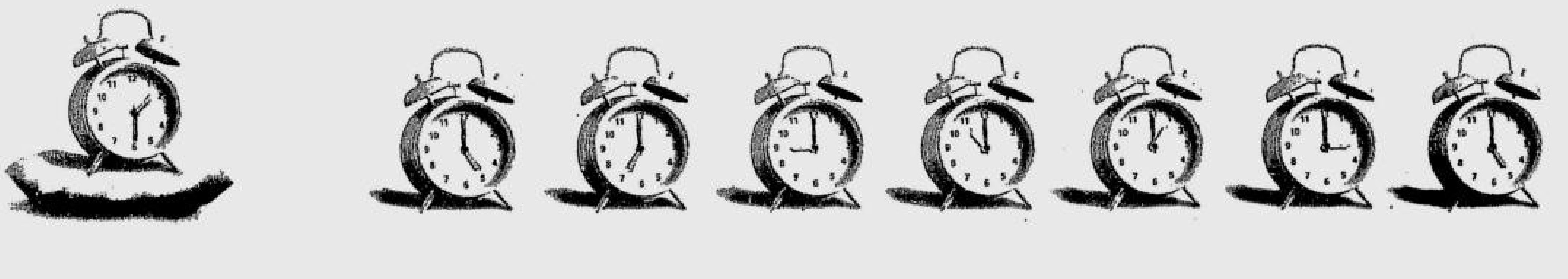

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NBN to cover SEAG

By June Navarro

DESPITE the scarcity of funding, the National Broadcasting Network yesterday pledged to cover the 21st Southeast Asian Games on Sept. 7-18 in Kuala Lumpur.

NBN general manager Joey Isabelo said the government television network has signed a memorandum of agreement with the Philippine Olympic Committee and the Philippine Sports Commission for the coverage of almost all events in the sportsfest.

"Although we lack the financial resources, our team will try its best to cover all the events," Isabelo told sportswriters at the PSA Forum.

NBN, formerly known as PTV-4, needs P15-P20 million to bankroll the event, which the network has been covering for the past three SEAG editions.

PSC chair Carlos Tuason, who also graced the gathering along with POC president Celso Dayrit and commissioners Cynthia Carrion and Richie Garcia, vowed to move heaven and earth to raise the needed funding.

He said the PSC would seek the support of government institutions and the private sector.

"With this MOA, we will now help each other in making sure that we can cover the SEA Games," said Isabelo.

But Dayrit refused to give a categorical answer regarding calls for the POC to waive the P3-million broadcasting rights.

"Frankly, without basketball, it is really difficult to raise funds," said Isabelo.

Lito Puyat and Tiny Literal are claiming the presidency of the Basketball Association of the Philippines, an unresolved dispute that led Fiba to suspend the BAP indefinitely. The suspension jeopardized the RP quintet's chances of making it to Kuala Lumpur.

40 or 80 gold medals?

OFFICIALS said the country will win 40 gold medals in Kuala Lumpur. But coaches said 80 is achievable.

The Task Force has listed 312 participants to the Sea Games in September. They will be joined by 62 coaches, 16 assistant coaches, 26 team managers and 37 members of the technical crew.

Not included are 24 basketball male and female players.

JONES BEATEN

Zhanna Pintusevich-Block (left) of Ukraine crosses the finish line ahead of Marion Jones of the US in the women's 100-meter final at the 8th IAAF World Championships in Edmonton, Canada, yesterday. Pintusevich-Block finished first in 10.82 seconds, Jones second in 10.85. It was Jones' first defeat in 42 races.

REUTERS

Rosario, Baltao top jetsports

SUBIC—Back-to-back champion Paul del Rosario and Carlo Baltao scored perfect feats last weekend in the third leg of the 2001 Petron National Jetsports Series at the Waterfront Beach here.

Del Rosario, the Team Networx skipper, posted his third perfect score in the premiere Expert Runabout 1200 Super Stock where he pulled a wide margin over runner-up and last year's top rookie James Baltao and third placer Dennis Ong.

Baltao shone brightest in the Expert Runabout 785 Super Stock, leading all the way to turn back younger brother James and 1998 champion John Dee.

Del Rosario, eyeing an unprecedented third consecutive crown, lead this series sponsored by Petron Corp., WG&A Super Ferry and SBMA with 360 points, just 12 points ahead of Baltao who accumulated 348.

Dee, the Team No Fear ace rider, ruled the Expert Runabout 785-1200 Stock, warding off the challenge from Paul del Rosario and James Baltao.

Also posting perfect scores were Ferdinand Pulmones, Roland Hermoso and Bobby del Rosario.

Bumgarner scores first back-to-back win

CDS Racing Team's Lee Bumgarner pulled off his first back-to-back victory for the season by edging teammate Bert Neuhof in an exciting P125 class finals in Round 6 of the 2001 Shell Super Kart Championship Series held last Sunday at the Batangas Racing Circuit Philippines in Rosario, Batangas.

The American finished ahead of the German engineer by a more 6/100 of a second to claim his second straight win and move up front in the points standing in the F125 category.

2 Filipino netters place 2nd in US

THE PHILIPPINES' Charise Godoy and Juan Felipe Mayor took runner-up honors in two tennis tournaments in the United States last month.

Godoy, a native of Ozamiz City, ousted No. 1 Tanya Talaid, 6-2, 7-5, in the semis but lost to US-based Russian Ivina Shef, 7-6, 3-6, 0-6, in the girls' 18-under finals of the 40th Glendora Tennis Championships.

In the 5th Jack Kramer Open in Burbank City, Godoy scored a 7-5, 5-7, 6-3 semifinal victory over No. 1 Mexican-American Delia Feliz. But the Filipino lost in the finals to Ashley Glenman, 6-4, 2-6, 1-6.

Mayor, a sixth-grader at the Aklan Learning Center, lost the boys' 12-under title to Ryan Thather, 1-6, 1-6.

Other members of the RP team sponsored by Alibor and Adidas Phils. Were Joel Locsin of Classic Pro Tennis Center and Renan Mirto of Aklan Learning Center, who reached the quarterfinal round in the boys' 18-under and 10-under division, respectively.

Baguio netfest host

ADIDAS Philippines focuses its nationwide sports program in Luzon when the Baguio Tennis Club (BTC) hosts the 3rd leg of the Adidas Tennis Challenge 2001 set Aug. 11-13.

BTC officers Miles Dugayen and Bob Pascual recently met with Adidas managing director John Alonte and executives Goody Custodio with Willie Victoria during the Adidas Streetball Challenge in Baguio to formalize the age tennis group tournament.

The featured events are the junior men's and women's 21-under divisions; the boys' and girls' 16-under, 14-under, 12-under and the unisex 10-under categories.

The Adidas Tennis Challenge 2001 is being organized by the Children's Tennis Workshop for the third straight year with support from Milo and NBN (formerly PTV) Saturday weekly TV show Sports Kids.

Deadline for registration is set at 5 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 10, at the BTC clubhouse with the draw to follow immediately.

TENNIS ROUNDUP

Agassi axed for second straight week

CINCINNATI, Ohio—Gaston Gaudio ambushed second seed Andre Agassi, saddling the seven-time Grand Slam champion with his second first-round loss in seven days with a 6-4, 7-6 (7/3) victory at the 2.95-million-dollar Masters Series. Agassi added the disappointment in Cincinnati to a defeat he took last week at Montreal. Agassi won the Los Angeles tournament just over a week ago. *AFP*

Sanchez-Vicario upset by wildcard

MANHATTAN BEACH, California—Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario of Spain was beaten by wildcard entry Virginie Razzano of France in the second round of the $565,000 estyle.com Classic at the Manhattan Tennis Club. The ninth-seeded Sanchez-Vicario, who is 18th in the WTA's computer rankings, lost 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 to Razzano, who is ranked 83rd in the world. In another second-round match involving a seeded player Monday, No. 11 Jelena Dokic of Yugoslavia beat Marlene Weingartner of Germany, 6-2, 6-1. *AP*

Hingis No. 1 for 200 weeks

MIAMI—Martina Hingis joined exclusive company here Monday, becoming the fourth women's tennis player to be ranked No. 1 in the world for 200 weeks in the WTA ratings. The Swiss star joined retired legends Chris Evert, Martina Navratilova and Steffi Graf in the elite club. Hingis, who turns 22 next month, had been the youngest to the top ranking, doing so on March 31, 1997 at the age of 16 1/2 years. Hingis has claimed five Grand Slam singles titles among her 38 WTA tournament wins. She has won three crowns in 2001 after winning nine times last season. Lindsay Davenport jumped past Wimbledon champion Venus Williams into third. *AFP*

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON NATURALIZATION

Makati

RULES AND REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9139, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE ADMINISTRATIVE NATURALIZATION LAW OF 2000"

Section 1. *Special Committee on Naturalization.* – The Special Committee on Naturalization, hereinafter referred to as the "Committee", shall be composed of: (1) the Solicitor-General, as Chairman; (2) the Secretary of Foreign Affairs or his duly authorized representative; and (3) the National Security Adviser, as members. The Committee shall have its principal office at the Office of the Solicitor-General. The Committee shall meet, as often as practicable, to consider applications for naturalization.

Section 2. *Secretariat of the Committee; Functions.* – Immediately upon the effectivity of these Implementing Rules and Regulations, the Committee shall meet in order to establish a Secretariat which shall have the following functions: (a) to receive all papers filed with the Committee and cause the publication of those matters required by law; (b) to receive all fees paid by applicants; (c) to record all the proceedings of the Committee; (d) to keep and maintain all the books necessary for the recording of such papers and documents; (e) to notify applicants of the progress of their application and such other developments as may arise in the course of the evaluation; and (f) to perform such other functions as may be required by the Committee.

Section 3. *Power to Approve, Deny or Reject Applications; Unanimous Vote Required.* – The Committee shall have the power to approve, deny, or reject applications for naturalization as provided in R.A. No. 9139, hereinafter referred to as the "Act". To approve petitions for naturalization, the vote of all three members shall be required. In meetings to consider petitions for naturalization, however, the presence of two members shall constitute a quorum. When only two members were present in the meeting, the following are required in order to consider the petition for naturalization approved:

(1) the affirmative vote of the two members present during the meeting; and

(2) the submission of the written affirmative vote of the absent member, accompanied by his certification that he has considered and reviewed the minutes of the meeting wherein the pertinent petition was considered, together with all relevant and material information. The written affirmative vote and certification shall be submitted by the absent member within fifteen days from receipt of the minutes of the pertinent meeting.

Section 4. *Strict Construction.* – These rules shall be strictly construed against an applicant for naturalization.

Section 5. *Where Filed; Processing Fee.* – Any person who has all of the qualifications under Section 3 of the Act and none of the disqualifications under Section 4 thereof may file a petition for naturalization with the Secretariat of the Committee, upon the payment of the processing fee of Forty thousand pesos (P40,000.00). Thereafter, the petition shall be stamped to indicate the date of filing and a corresponding docket number.

Section 6. *Number of Copies of Petition.* – The petition for naturalization shall be filed in five (5) copies, signed, thumbmarked on each and every page and verified by the petitioner, legibly typed, and with the latter's passport size photograph (colored with white background) attached to each copy of the petition.

Section 7. *Contents of Petition for Naturalization.* – The petition for naturalization shall set forth the following:

(a) The petitioner's name, surname, middle name, nickname, and any other name he/she has used or by which he/she is known;

(b) The petitioner's present and all former places of residences, if any;

(c) The petitioner's place and date of birth, the complete names and citizenship of his/her parents, both natural and adopting, if any, and their residences;

(d) The petitioner's trade, business, profession or occupation, and if married, also that of his/her spouse, and children, if any;

(e) The petitioner's civil status, whether single, married, legally separated, or widowed. If married or widowed, petitioner shall state the date and place of marriage, and the name, date of birth, birthplace, citizenship, and residence of the spouse. If petitioner is legally separated or the marriage was annulled, the date of the decree of legal separation or annulment, and the court which granted the same. If petitioner is widowed, the date and place of death of his/her spouse;

(f) If petitioner has a child/children, whether legitimate, illegitimate, or adopted, the name/s, date/s of birth, birthplace/s, residence/s, and school/s where such child/children received primary and secondary education;

(g) A declaration specifying in detail that petitioner possesses all the qualifications and none of the disqualifications under the Act;

(h) A declaration that petitioner shall never be a public charge; and

(i) A declaration that it is the petitioner's true and honest intention to acquire Philippine citizenship and to renounce absolutely and forever any prince, potentate, State or sovereign, and particularly the country of which the petitioner is a subject.

Section 8. *Accompanying Documents.* – The petition for naturalization shall be accompanied by the following documents attached to the petition as annexes thereof:

(a) The duplicate original or certified photocopies of petitioner's birth certificate;

(b) The duplicate original or certified photocopies of petitioner's alien certificate of registration and native-born certificate of residence;

(c) The duplicate original or certified photocopies of petitioner's marriage certificate, if married, or the death certificate of his/her spouse, if widowed, or the court decree annulling his/her marriage or granting legal separation, if such was the fact;

(d) The duplicate original or certified photocopies of birth certificates, alien certificates of registration or native-born certificates of residence, if any, of petitioner's minor children, if any;

(e) Affidavit of financial capacity by the petitioner, duly supported by bank certifications, passbooks, stock certificates, or proof of ownership of other properties;

(f) Affidavits of at least two (2) credible witnesses who must be Filipino citizens of good reputation in petitioner's place of residence, attesting to the following: (a) the good moral character of petitioner; (b) that they have personally known petitioner for a period of at least ten (10) years; and (c) that in their opinion, the petitioner has all the qualifications and none of the disqualifications to become a citizen of the Philippines, and not in any way disqualified under the provisions of the Act;

(g) A medical certificate that petitioner is not suffering from mental alienation or a user of prohibited drugs or otherwise a drug dependent and that he/she is not afflicted with acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), or any incurable contagious disease;

(h) School diploma and transcript of records of the petitioner in the school/s he or she attended in the Philippines. Should the petitioner have minor children, a certification that his or her children are enrolled in private or public school/s duly recognized by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports ("DECS"), where Philippine history, government and civics are taught and prescribed as part of the school curriculum, and enrollment in said school/s is not limited to any race or nationality; and

(i) If gainfully employed, petitioner's income tax returns for the past three (3) years.

Section 9. *Determination of Sufficiency of Petition.* – Within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the petition, the Committee shall determine whether the petition is complete in form and in substance. If the petition is found to be wanting in form and substance, particularly with the requirement as to the allegation of all of the qualifications and none of the disqualifications, the petition shall be dismissed without prejudice to the refiling of the same, upon the payment of the processing fee.

Section 10. *Mandatory Publication and Posting Requirements.* – If the petition is complete, the Committee shall inform petitioner of such fact. Thereafter, the Committee, upon receipt from the petitioner of the amount necessary to pay for the publication expenses, shall immediately cause the publication of pertinent portions of the petition, indicating the name, qualifications, and other personal circumstances of the applicant, once a week, for three (3) consecutive weeks in a duly accredited newspaper of general circulation, and have copies of the entire petition posted in any public or conspicuous area.

The Committee shall immediately furnish the Department of Foreign Affairs ("DFA"), the Bureau of Immigration ("BI"), the civil registrar of the petitioner's place of residence, and the National Bureau of Investigation ("NBI") with copies of the petition and its supporting documents. These agencies shall have copies of the petition posted in any public or conspicuous area in their buildings, offices and premises, and shall, within thirty (30) days from receipt of the petition, submit to the Committee a report stating the following:

(a) The Compliance with the posting requirement under the Act; and

(b) The presence or absence of any derogatory record on file or any such relevant and material information which might adversely affect petitioner's application for citizenship.

Section 11. *Review of Petition.* – Within sixty (60) days from receipt of the reports of the agencies which are required to be furnished a copy of the petition, or the date of the last publication of the petition, whichever comes later, the Committee shall consider and review all relevant and material information it has received pertaining to the petition.

Section 12. *Interview.* – The Committee may call the petitioner and/or his witnesses for an interview to ascertain petitioner's identity, the authenticity of the petition and its annexes, and to determine the truthfulness of the statements and declarations made in the petition and its annexes.

If the Committee shall have received any information adverse to the petition, the Committee shall advise petitioner of said information and allow the petitioner to answer, explain or refute the information under oath in writing within the period prescribed by the Committee.

Section 13. *Decision of the Committee.* – After the review of the petition or the conduct of the interview, the Committee, based on the facts and documents before it, shall approve or disapprove the petition, and henceforth notify the petitioner of its decision.

Section 14. *Disapproval of Petition.* – If the Committee disapproves the petition, it shall set forth the factual and/or legal bases for the disapproval, and notify petitioner thereof.

Section 15. *Approval of Petition; Payment of Naturalization Fee.* – Within thirty (30) days from receipt of notice of approval of the petition, the petitioner shall pay to the Committee, through its Secretariat, a naturalization fee in the amount of One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00), which may be paid in full or as follows: Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) upon receipt of the notice of approval, and the balance of Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) within the aforesaid thirty-day period.

Within sixty (60) days from approval of the petition and full payment of the naturalization fee, the petitioner shall take his or her oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines. After petitioner takes his oath, the Committee shall forthwith issue a Certificate of Naturalization and the oath of allegiance. The Committee shall immediately furnish the BI with a copy of the petitioner's oath of allegiance. A copy of his oath will be kept in the records of the Committee.

Should the applicant fail to take his oath of allegiance within the time provided herein, the approval of the petition for naturalization shall be deemed abandoned.

Section 16. *Duty of the Secretariat.* – Within five (5) days after the issuance of the Certificate of Naturalization, the Secretariat shall forward a copy of the Certificate of Naturalization to the BI and to the proper local civil registrar.

Section 17. *Status of Alien Wife and Minor Children.* – After the approval of the petition for administrative naturalization and cancellation of petitioner's alien certificate of registration, petitioner's alien lawful wife and minor children may file a petition for the cancellation of their alien certificates of registration with the Committee subject to the payment of the filing fee of Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) and naturalization fee of Forty thousand pesos (P40,000.00) for each individual payable as follows: Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) upon the approval of the petition and Twenty thousand pesos (P20,000.00) upon taking the oath of allegiance to the Republic of the Philippines.

Section 18. *Status of Alien Husband and Minor Children.* – If the applicant is a married woman, the approval of her petition for administrative naturalization will not benefit her alien husband but her minor children may file a petition for cancellation of their alien certificates of registration with the BI subject to the payment of the fees prescribed in Section 17 hereof.

Section 19. *Revocation of the Certificate of Naturalization.* – The Committee may revoke or cancel the Certificate of Naturalization issued under the Act, *motu propio* or upon complaint by any person, after due notice and summary hearing, in the following cases:

(a) If the Committee finds that the naturalized person or his duly authorized representative made any false statement or misrepresentation or committed any violation of law, rules and regulations in connection with the petition for naturalization, or if he otherwise obtains Philippine citizenship fraudulently or illegally;

(b) If the naturalized person or his wife, or any of his minor children who acquired Philippine citizenship by virtue of his naturalization shall, within five (5) years next following the grant of Philippine citizenship, establish permanent residence in a foreign country, that individual's certificate of naturalization or acquired Philippine citizenship shall be revoked: *Provided*, That the fact of such person's remaining for more than one (1) year in his country of origin, or two (2) years in any foreign country, shall be considered *prima facie* evidence of intent to permanently reside therein;

(c) If the naturalized person or his wife who acquired citizenship allows himself or herself to be used as a dummy in violation of any constitutional or legal provision requiring Philippine citizenship as a condition for the exercise, use or enjoyment of any right, franchise or privilege; and

(d) If the naturalized person or his wife or child who acquired Philippine citizenship commits any act inimical to national security.

Section 20. *Renunciation of Hereditary Title or Membership in any Order of Nobility.* – In case the naturalized person holds any hereditary title, or belongs to any order of nobility, he shall make an express renunciation of his title or membership in this order of nobility before the Committee or its duly authorized representative, and such renunciation shall be included in the records of his application for citizenship.

Section 21. *Special Circumstances.* – Any person who failed to register his/her birth with the concerned city or municipal civil registrar may, within two (2) years from the effectivity of the Act, file a petition for the acquisition of Philippine citizenship, subject to the requirements under the Act and these implementing rules and regulations.

Section 22. *Effectivity Clause.* – These rules and regulations shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.*

TEOFISTO T. GUINGONA, JR.
Secretary of Foreign Affairs

ROILO S. GOLEZ
National Security Adviser

simeon v. marcelo
SIMEON V. MARCELO 7/17/01
Solicitor General

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* *Interested parties may apply at the Office of the Solicitor General, 134 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City, MM., upon effectivity of the above rules and regulations.*

SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ▨ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

NBA preseason games set

NEW YORK—NBA teams will play in Japan, Germany, Italy and Mexico during an exhibition schedule that begins Oct. 5. The two-time defending champion Los Angeles Lakers will face Golden State in Tokyo on Oct. 13 and 14, the sixth time since 1990 the NBA has played in Japan. Vince Carter will lead the Toronto Raptors against the Minnesota Timberwolves on Oct. 13 in Cologne, Germany. *AP*

Tyson rape decision delayed

BIG BEAR CITY, California—A decision on whether rape charges will be filed against former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson will not be made for at least several days, the prosecutor handling the case said. The San Bernardino County district attorney's office received the case Monday from sheriff's investigators. "I'm going to guess at the earliest by the end of this week," said deputy district attorney Mike Ramos. *AP*

SMB-ALASKA, RED BULL-PUREFOODS

PBA sudden-death matches today

PENNISI (left) tries to get past San Miguel's Nick Belasco in file photo.

Navy XI, Armymen sparkle

GAMES SUNDAY:
1:00 p.m.—Navy vs PAF
3:30 p.m.—Army vs Kaya FC

NAVY, Army and Kaya Football Club chalked up lopsided victories Sunday to barge into the crossover semifinals of the 1st Army-Utilco International invitational football tournament at the Ascom field in Fort Bonifacio.

Navy shutout PCU (Taft), 5-0, Army blasted Far Eastern University, 10-0, and Kaya crushed University of Asia and the Pacific, 14-0, to join idle Air Force in the semifinals.

PCU (Dasmariñas) and College of St. Benilde baffled to a 1-1 draw in the other match of the series organized by Philippine Army, sponsored by Utilco International Trading and sanctioned by the Philippine Football Federation.

The semifinals will be played Sunday (Aug. 12) with Navy meeting Air Force at 1 p.m. and Army facing Kaya at 3:30.

Jeffrey Lobaton knocked in seven goals in the 16th, 24th, 38th, 41st, 78th, 83rd and 85 minutes to power Army to victory over FEU. Milart Betita scored twice while Brendon Morata struck once to complete the rout.

Pennisi fined P20,000; 5 others penalized

BY MARC ANTHONY REYES

GAMES TODAY: (Ynares Center)
5:15 p.m.—Alaska vs San Miguel
7:30 p.m.—Red Bull vs Purefoods

THE QUESTION whether which team will dispute the PBA Commissioner's Cup championship will finally be answered when the twin best-of-five semifinals series reach a climax today at the Ynares Center in Antipolo City.

San Miguel Beer, Alaska Milk, Purefoods and Batang Red Bull are expected to pull all the stops to make the best-of-seven title series.

Today's knockout matches puts a fitting finale to the dramatic semifinal series that saw six erring players incurring P49,000 worth of fines after Game 4.

The Aces managed to drag the defending champion Beermen to a Game 5 following a 98-91 overtime win last Sunday, while the Hotdogs eked out a 77-75 victory over the Thunder in the other semis match.

"We like heated, intense action on the court, but the happenings the past week clearly have no place in this league," said PBA officer-in-charge Sonny Barrios. "The fines are but the best way to remind our players that violence will not in anyway be tolerated by this office."

Red Bull's Mick Pennisi got the biggest fine of P20,000 for slamming the ball hard on Boyet Fernandez's face, causing the Purefoods guard's right eye to swell.

The incident, which happened in the final four minutes of the game, changed the complexion of the game, shifting the momentum to the Hotdogs, who trailed by 10 points with 7:55 remaining.

His teammate Junthy Valenzuela was slapped P10,000 for hitting Purefoods import David Wood on his nose, also during the game.

Also fined were Alaska's Ali Peek, San Miguel's Danny Ildefonso, Purefoods' Andy Seigle and Alaska import Sean Chambers.

No suspensions were given in consideration of the delicate stage of the team's respective campaigns.

Peek was meted an P8,000 fine for taking a fighting stance on SMB's Danny Seigle and throwing the ball at Olsen Racela, while Ildefonso got a P3,000 penalty for charging Chambers.

Chambers was asked to play P3,500 for getting a technical foul and his fighting stance against Ildefonso, while Seigle drew P4,500 for his foul on Antonio Lang, his second motion on Jimwell Torion and an incident involving a photographer.

Knights-Lakers KO tiff on

BY ROY LUARCA

GAME TODAY (San Juan Gym)
5:00 p.m.—Andok's San Juan vs FedEx Laguna

FEDEX Laguna has been beaten twice by Andok's San Juan and never won at the San Juan Gym.

These are the mental obstacles the Laguna Lakers have to hurdle in their knockout duel with the San Juan Knights for the last semifinal slot at 5 p.m. today in the Metropolitan Basketball Association First Phase.

"It's true, the Lakers have never won in San Juan," said Laguna coach Bonnie Garcia. "But I told my wards to focus on the game because there's always a first time."

The Lakers also have to forget about the two losses dealt them by the Knights in the elimination round. The count was 90-88 on June 13 and 105-100 on July 20.

For San Juan, having to figure in the sudden death was a big letdown.

From the top, the Knights tumbled all the way to No. 4 in the elimination round after they got beaten by the Negros Slashers, 110-93, last Sunday.

Now, they have to get past the Lakers just to make the best-of-three semifinals.

Today, however, those past victories hardly mean anything. The Lakers are determined to end their supremacy and bury the memory of their forgettable 7-win, 7-loss mark after the double-round elimination round.

Laguna coach Bonnie Garcia said his players are mentally ready for the challenge. "They know this is fight to the death, so they've got to give everything they have."

Garcia said they practiced twice on Sunday and Monday and held another one Tuesday in preparation for the do-or-die showdown.

The Knights, of course, wouldn't want to let their 10-4 record go to waste.

Meanwhile, Friday's semifinal schedules have been switched due to the unavailability of the De La Salle Lipa Sentrum. The Cebuana-Lhuillier-Negros tussle at the University of St. La Salle Bacolod will be held at 3 p.m. instead of 5 p.m., while LBC Batangas' game against the winner of the San Juan-Laguna duel at the Sentrum will be held at 5 p.m. from 3 p.m. MBA games are being televised live over Channel 4.

Baguio cagers show might

BAGUIO CITY teams won four of five divisions during last weekend's Northern Luzon eliminations of the Adidas Streetball Challenge 2001 at the Burnham Park.

Team Artillery of Baguio, the tallest squad to compete in this year's series, downed Team Durus of Pangasinan, 15-11, to prevail in the seniors' category.

The hosts captured the girls, midgets and the Streetball on Wheels events while Team Relentless from Don Bosco Pampanga prevailed in the juniors' division.

Adidas Philippines head John Alonte and Goody Custodio of the sales and marketing division, Philippine Basketball League Commissioner Chino Trinidad. Team Ventures President Emmanuel Penson, Streetball provincial coordinator Leo Arnaiz and tournament director Charlie Dy, handed out prizes and trophies.

Reygel Ventura led Relentless with seven points in beating Trickshot of La Union, 15-12. Team Gazelle of the University of Baguio routed Team Jetflame, composed of UB's high school cagers, 24-7, to bag the girls' division.

Judith Galanza, a member of the Philippines' B team during last year's Asian Streetball finals, led scorers with nine points.

Team Koresco of Baguio, leaning on Simon Bustos' six points, downed Grudge, led by players of Our Lady of Manaoag, 11-7, to win the midget titles.

Kudos to Tollway Patrol 99

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

THANK god that nothing serious happened to us last Sunday afternoon on our way to the PBA at the Big Dome in Cubao: We were nearly sideswiped by a wayward pickup truck driven by an ill-mannered driver who could very well be high on drugs or drunk the way he was driving in reckless abandon.

Worse, even before we could recover from the shock, my son Jayvee, who was driving for me, saw the driver of the pickup vehicle even smiling perversely after the near-tragic incident at the North Expressway just after the Meycauayan exit in Bulacan, obviously unmindful of the consequences of his bad driving in case of an accident. *Walanghiya talaga.*

To teach the bastard a lesson and, after I was able to pacify my angry son, we pulled over at the nearby Malinta exit in Valenzuela City to report the incident to traffic officers G. A. Carpio and V. A. Pascual ofTollway Patrol No. 99 who promptly took our complaint and, soon after, issued the traffic violation ticket to the errant driver of the pickup vehicle.

I say Carpio and Pascual should be commended for the way they handle their job: fast, firm and courteous. Their performance speaks well of them, setting the example for the other traffic officers to follow, aside from serving as a deterrent to the reckless drivers in the accident-prone North Expressway.

However, there is more to be done. For instance, the Philippine National Construction Corp., which has jurisdiction over the North Expresway, should add more teeth in enforcing the rules particularly on "trucks and slow-moving vehicles." I have observed many, many times that warning signs which are visible along the way and written both in English and Tagalog are repeatedly ignored by many hard-headed drivers. This is a sad reflection on our discipline as a nation.

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"SALAMAT PO, MEYOR." It's now business as usual at the popular Valenzuela Cockpit and Sports Arena along MacArthur Highway in Malanday. Valenzuela City Mayor Bobits Carlos and the city council have allowed the holding of cockfights again at the VCSA during weekdays, to be exact on a Thursday, Friday and Saturday and derbies on a Monday.

Late last month when the popular cockpit north of Manila was padlocked, I wrote about the urgent need to reopen it following an appeal from the employees and workers, including the bet takers or *kristo*, who said that the closure of the VCSA had deprived them of their main source of income. I also rallied behind the call to reopen the cockpit in behalf of countless streetchildren, who are running honest errands in the premises of the cockpit instead of sniffing shabu.

SPORTS ON TV

COMPILED BY LORENZO MANGUIAT

GOLF: PGA - The International, Third Round at 2 p.m. (r) on Star Sports
CVS Charity Classic, Day Two at 10 p.m. on ESPN
Golf Classics Magnificent 8 - Royal Birkdale at midnight on ESPN
TENNIS: Masters Series (Cincinnati), Early Round Coverage Day #2 at 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. (r), Early Round Coverage Day #3 tomorrow at 1 a.m. on ESPN
VOLLEYBALL: FIVB Beach Volleyball - Germany Open, Men's 3rd Place and Final at 10 a.m. (r), Men's Highlights at 5:30 p.m. (r - 11:30 p.m.), Norway Open - Men's Semifinals at 12 midnight on Star Sports
BASEBALL: Baseball Max at 7 a.m. on ESPN
Sunday Night Baseball at 10 a.m. (r) on ESPN

BASEBALL RESULTS

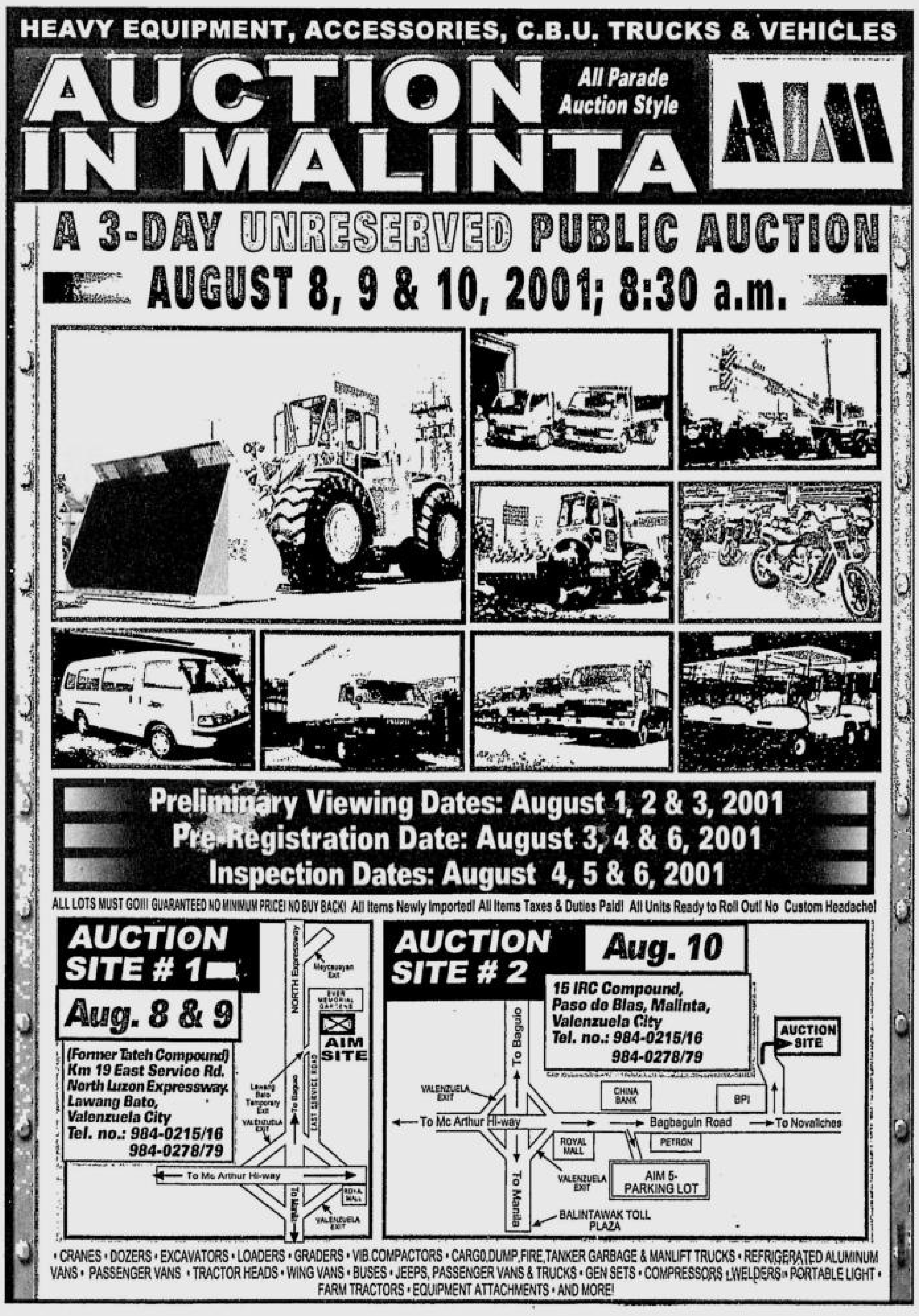
AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct	GB
East Division				
New York	67	45	.598	—
Boston	64	47	.577	2 1-2
Toronto	53	59	.473	14
Baltimore	46	67	.407	21 1-2
Tampa Bay	37	75	.330	30
Central Division				
Minnesota	63	48	.568	—
Cleveland	62	49	.559	1
Chicago	56	56	.500	7 1-2
Detroit	46	64	.418	16 1-2
Kansas City	44	68	.393	19 1-2
West Division				
Seattle	81	31	.723	—
Oakland	62	50	.554	19
Anaheim	58	54	.518	23
Texas	49	63	.438	32

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct	GB
East Division				
Atlanta	63	48	.568	—
Philadelphia	60	51	.540	3
Florida	56	55	.504	7
New York	51	61	.455	12 1-2
Montreal	47	65	.420	16 1-2
Central Division				
Chicago	63	47	.573	—
Houston	62	49	.559	1-2
St. Louis	56	54	.509	7
Milwaukee	47	62	.431	15 1-2
Cincinnati	46	64	.418	17
Pittsburgh	43	67	.391	20
West Division				
Los Angeles	63	49	.562	—
Arizona	62	49	.559	1-2
San Francisco	62	50	.554	1
San Diego	54	57	.486	8 1-2
Colorado	46	65	414	16 1-2

COMPLETE RESULTS
AMERICAN LEAGUE
Monday's Games
Oakland 6, Detroit 3
Anaheim 3, N.Y. Yankees 1
Chicago White Sox 5, Tampa Bay 2
Boston 10, Texas 7
Seattle 8, Cleveland 6
Baltimore 9, Kansas City 6
National League
No games scheduled *AP*



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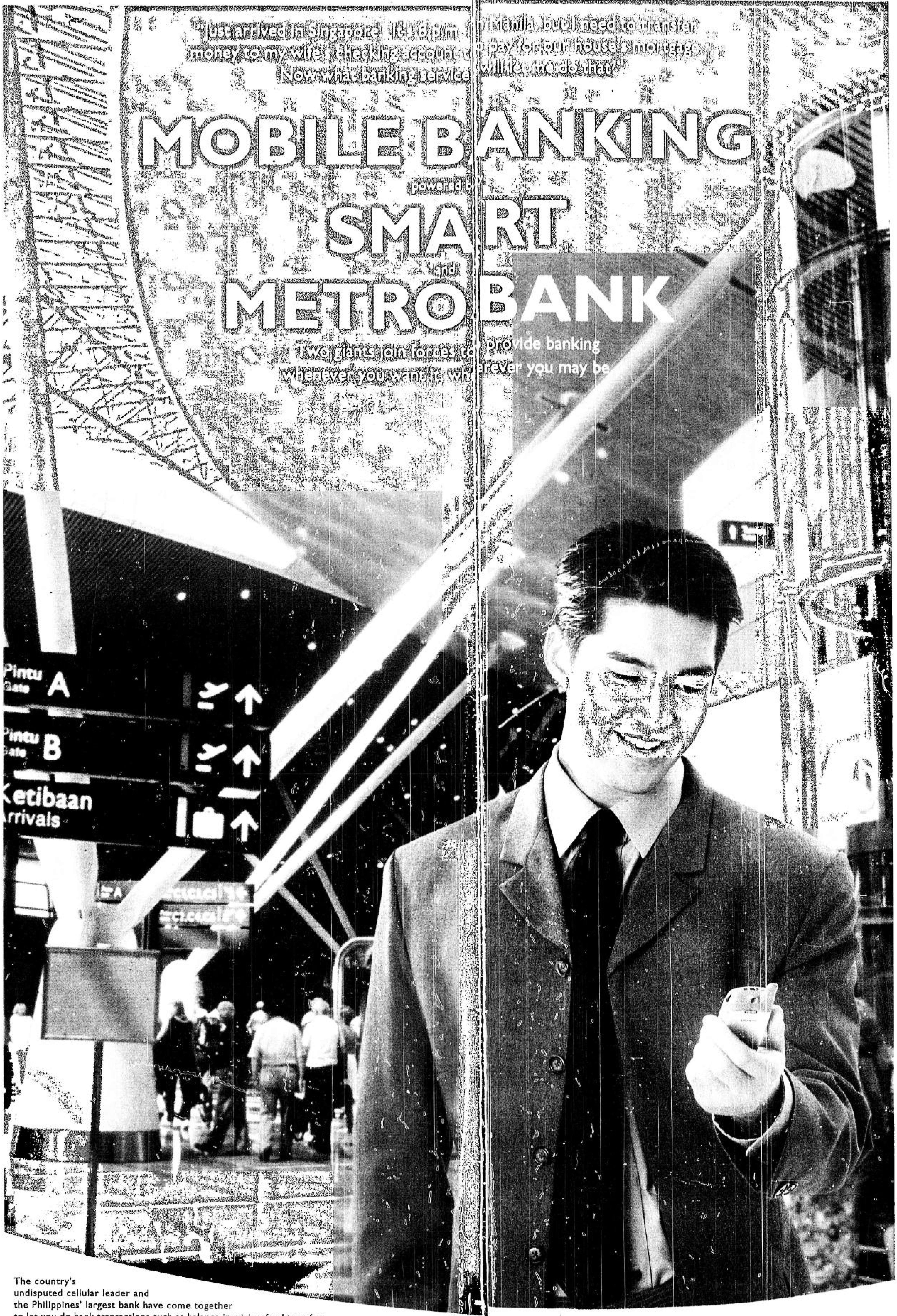

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Worker hunted for slay of 3 colleagues A20
Rizal oil spill destroys crops A20

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Exits watched for stolen paintings

By Alcuin Papa

THE PHILIPPINE National Police chief, Director General Leandro Mendoza, yesterday said he also ordered police units at airports and piers to look out for two stolen art works by Fernando Amorsolo and Manuel Baldemor that might be smuggled out of the country and sold abroad.

The PNP also alerted the public, especially art collectors, against buying the oil painting by Amorsolo and the watercolor by Baldemor which were stolen in an art gallery last Sunday.

Police said four armed men stole the art works, worth about P3.1 million, from a private art gallery owned by Fe Estrelina de Pio, on Lantana Street in Cubao, Quezon City.

"These art pieces may be a part of a private collection," Mendoza said. "But these are also considered national treasures because they are works of two of the country's greatest artists."

The Amorsolo, which is painted on a piece of GI sheet, portrays a Filipino woman lighting an oil lamp and is valued at P3 million.

Baldemor's watercolor is a still life worth P100,000.

Mendoza has ordered the PNP's National Capital Region Police Office and the Central Police District to solve the art theft. He has also directed men to gather information on the possible location of the two artworks and the suspects who took them.

The robbery happened about 4:30 p.m. on Sunday when the four armed men arrived at De Pio's house, hogtied her and covered her mouth with masking tape.

De Pio told police the suspects, one of whom she identified as Ronald A. Fajardo, ransacked her house and took the Amorsolo and Baldemor pieces.

The suspects then left on board a Toyota Tamaraw FX (UHK 587) toward an unknown destination, according to witnesses.

De Pio told police that Fajardo had gone to her house four times since July 20 because he was allegedly canvassing for artworks.

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Cowboy Grill 1190 ARQUEZA ST., MALATE	BARRICADE KNIGHTS/BROWNIE	NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill 451 REMEDIOS ST., MALATE	GOALKEYS FREEZE	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES Q.C.	SOUTHBORDER FAT 16/MR. ROXY	250 CONS F & D ☎936.9757
DOWNTOWN Music Bar & Restaurant	AIZA SEGUERRA VICE & ANTON	P 400 COVER CHARGE ☎373.3333
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Worker hunted for slay of 3 colleagues

By Philip C. Tubeza

POLICE are now hunting down Arnold Piamonte for allegedly murdering three of his co-workers who reportedly made fun of his distorted handwriting in Quezon City.

Piamonte, a stay-in worker at a warehouse on 6 Masaraga St., Barangay Tatalon, Quezon City, and a native of Compostela Valley, allegedly killed Editho Saligumba, 38; Lando dela Rama, 25; and Michael Dojinog, 41, said PO1 Joseph Madrid, of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

Saligumba and Dojinog were stabbed eight times while Dela Rama had four stab wounds, Madrid said.

Dojinog was also hit at the back of the head with a hard object. His body was discovered inside the warehouse toilet.

But police are also looking at the possibility that Piamonte had accomplices in the gruesome killing because investigators recovered three knives and a piece of wood at the crime scene.

Madrid said Piamonte was allegedly writing a letter to his mother while the three victims were having a drink about 2 a.m. yesterday. The suspect reportedly asked P3,000 from his employer, warehouse owner Manuel T. Chua, because his parents badly needed the cash.

Saligumba, Chua's driver, saw the suspect writing a letter and allegedly invited Piamonte to drink since it was dark and the suspect's writing was skew.

Saligumba did not stop picking on the suspect, who got mad, tore up the letter he was writing, and walked out of the warehouse, Madrid said.

Police recovered torn pieces of paper in the crime scene.

Minutes later, the suspect went back and killed not just Saligumba but also his two drinking buddies.

The crime was discovered only around 7:30 a.m. yesterday when another worker, Eric Basister, arrived at the warehouse and saw the victims lying dead on their bellies.

Madrid said the CPD has sent teams to bus stations and Metro Manila ports to prevent Piamonte from escaping to the provinces.

Newsman is suspect, not witness, police say

By Philip C. Tubeza

POLICEMEN investigating last Saturday's fire that killed six people in Quezon City yesterday denied reports that journalist-turned-media-consultant Philip Lustre would be turned into a witness.

"He was the last one seen coming out of the house, how could he not be considered a suspect?" asked a Central Police District (CPD) investigator involved in the investigation.

The CPD director, Senior Supt. Rodolfo Tor, was quoted as saying in a news conference Monday that Lustre, a Department of the Interior and Local Government media consultant, would be turned into a witness since no other witness had come forward.

But the investigator said police already have five witnesses.

"We're just going through their statements," the investigator said. "And we are also completing the evidence that we already have in our hands."

The evidence, once completed, could pin down the person who started the blaze, he added.

Lustre was linked to the deadly fire that nearly burned down an apartment at 54 Malakas St. in Barangay Pinyahan, Quezon City. Police, however, have yet to formally tag him as a suspect because no witness has come forward accusing him of arson.

The fire killed Lustre's friend Violeta Robles, 25; his cousin Veronica Roxas, and Roxas' children Jun-Jun, 11; AC, 6; and 15-year-old twins, Mara and Mira.

Arson investigators have yet to determine the cause of the blaze and have asked the help of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

Insp. Samuel Tadeo, of the Bureau of Fire Protection, said an NBI technician will visit the apartment this morning to help determine what started the conflagration.

Lustre presented himself to police and the media Sunday at the CPD headquarters at Camp Karingal in Sikatuna Village, Quezon City.

Tor and Lustre had a closed-door meeting for two hours before the DILG consultant was presented to the media.

Bata Reyes's game now fit for the museum?

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

BEFORE that joke about a priest that mistook Mike Arroyo in confession for an honestly repentant Erap Estrada, there was this pool parlor favorite on the failed beer ad brag of Efren "Bata" Reyes.

Truthful as it was, the joke was quite unkind.

Of course, you felt the widespread displeasure caused by the failure of Bata Reyes and his teammates in the recent Cardiff, England world pool championships.

It won't sound nice repeating that snide sidestreet remark on how the group, touted to meet in the finals, instead ended up humbled and empty-handed at the airport.

That failure had actually raised fears about a serious slide in the popularity of billiards in the Philippines.

There was this feeling that, wherever Bata Reyes's game goes, so goes the state of billiards in the country.

* * *

It was at first hard to believe but, from the look of things, the fall of RP pool experts headed by Bata Reyes in the last world pool championships has hardly caused a dent on the popularity of the game here.

For example, Bubot So, who runs a pool parlor in our neighborhood in Mandaluyong, said a bigger number of younger players have started haunting his place after the latest defeat of Bata Reyes and his group.

Naturally, all Bubut could say was that many young aspirants believed the Filipino group failed in Cardiff mainly due to bad luck.

They just did not get the right breaks, Bubut was told by most of his customers.

* * *

Bad luck, this was the same excuse given when Bata failed in his first Cardiff title defense.

With his second straight fall, it's clear that Bata Reyes has been getting unluckier each year.

He reached the quarterfinals last year before being bundled off by Steve Davis, a snooker expert who was merely trying his luck in the pool series.

This year, however, Bata failed to survive the Round of 32, an awful dip considering the expectations and accolades.

Early in this year's world series, Bata was even labeled The Most Feared Pool Player in the World.

* * *

With his dismal exit, Reyes has no choice but to shed that label, all for the simple fact that other players, quietly more capable than the Filipino superstar, have emerged.

Of course, majority of Bata's fans here at home would deny that sorry development. These people would insist Bata is still tops in the universe.

For sure, local pool fans and practitioners will remain divided on the results of this year's World Professional Pool Championships in England.

One group will maintain that it was plain and simple bad luck that did Bata & Co. in.

Another group will claim that the rise of younger, more skillful cue artists from Europe caused all the bad luck that hounded the highly fancied Filipinos.

Well, this would sound rather unpatriotic, but it cannot be denied that outstanding younger Europeans, headed by eventual champion Mika Immonen of Finland, succeeded mainly because they had worked a lot harder in order to be a lot luckier.

* * *

Not only that. The overall results at Cardiff showed to the world that emerging younger stars have unraveled a sparkling new kind of game.

A new school could have taken over in the last Cardiff world championships.

At least Ralph Souquet, a world tour veteran like Bata Reyes, said it all after he was humbled by the 22-year-old Mike Immonen for the top money in Cardiff.

Souquet, admitting he just could not put his game together, humbly said he lost to a far superior opponent.

Souquet refused to say that breaks did not go his way. He swore he was overwhelmed by Immonen's superb, symphonic and almost creaseless game.

Yes, that winning stand by Immonen, who had previously beaten Reyes, could've also sent the message that Bata's curious and colorful game could next be headed for the museum.

The final score: Bata Reyes and his teammates now have a lot of catching up to do in order to regain the old luck, together with the undiminished respect of the pool-playing world.

Rizal oil spill destroys crops

By Agnes E. Donato

FARM crops were destroyed and at least four barangays were affected when drums of used oil spilled into the Teresa-Morong River in Rizal on Monday.

This has caused fear among residents that their health might be endangered if the local government failed to take appropriate action immediately.

The river was the source of water for local residents.

The oil leak, according to concerned residents, started from the Fortune Republic, a cement factory in Barangay Dulong Bayan in Teresa, Rizal.

The spill had so far affected barangays Bungbungan, San Jose, San Juan and San Guillermo in the neighboring town of Morong.

Local farmers have also expressed fear that their crops would be greatly affected by the oil spill, noting that much of their irrigation supply come from the river.

But despite the apparent gravity of the situation, local officials of Teresa town have chosen to keep mum on the matter and refused to disclose any details regarding the extent of the damage caused by the oil spill.

Morong Mayor George Bernando reported that he already ordered his men to conduct necessary measures on the oil spills and hinted that the Morong government was mulling the execution of legal actions against Fortune Republic.

He also vowed to coordinate with the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) for the immediate investigation of the leak.

Teresa police said they could not conduct an ocular inspection inside the cement factory to examine its waste disposal system, as officials of the plant had barred the authorities from entering its premises.

Shabu seized; two nabbed

TWO suspected female drug carriers were caught with some P2 million worth of shabu in a supermarket in Quezon City last week. The Philippine National Police's Narcotics Group identified the two suspected couriers as Nursida Gulam, 30, single, and Nursia Ahmad, 31, married, both of Libya Street, Muslim Compound, Barangay Culiat, Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

The suspects were arrested about 5 p.m. on Aug. 3 in a buy-bust operation at the parking lot of the SM Supersale Club in SM North Edsa, Quezon City, police said.

The lawmen seized from the women a kilo of shabu with a street value of some P2 million.

But Nargroup officials were not able to identify the source of the large cache.

The suspects were brought to the Nargroup detention center for further investigation while the drugs were turned over to the PNP's Crime Laboratory for examination and verification.

Alcuin Papa

SUSPECTS (from left) Geraldine Dulca, Renato Mecaydor, Rey Anselmo and Edcel Tomas Piga are presented to media people.

EDWIN BACASMAS

4 nabbed for coed's kidnap

By Alcuin Papa

FOUR suspects in the kidnapping of a University of Santo Tomas coed were captured in a series of operations last week, police announced yesterday.

Philippine National Police chief Director General Leandro Mendoza identified the suspects as Edcel Piga, 22, a native of Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan; Renato Mecaydor, 28, of Almeria, Leyte; Geraldine Dulca, 29, of Hinigaran, Negros Occidental and Rey Anselmo, 31, of Dagupan City, Pangasinan.

The suspects allegedly abducted Mary Ruth Quilindrino, on Gilmore Street, Quezon City on July 28.

The girl is a second year student of UST and the daughter of owners of the Perpetual Succor Hospital in Sampaloc, Manila.

According to PNP Intelligence Group head Chief Supt. Robert Delfin, Quilindrino was released by her captors on July 31 in exchange for P3.5 million in ransom.

But the family members continued to coordinate with police which led to the arrest of the suspects.

Piga, the alleged leader of the group and son of the canteen concessionaire at the hospital, and Mecaydor, were arrested in the hospital about 3 p.m. on Aug. 2.

Dulca was arrested about 1 a.m. the following day in a house on Domingo Santiago Street, Sampaloc. Anselmo was nabbed in Dagupan City about 9:30 a.m. on Aug. 3.

The suspects are now at the PNP IG compound in Camp Crame. They are facing kidnapping charges before a Quezon City court. Authorities recommended no bail for the suspects.

A total of P850,000 in ranson money were also recovered from the suspects. Police also seized a Toyota Lite Ace van (PNR-152) which the suspects allegedly used to kidnap the girl.

Delfin said they are still looking for the rest of the suspects still at large, as well as the remaining ransom money.

Robber slain by family of 3

By Philip C. Tubeza

AN ALLEGED robber did not get out of the home he tried to rob in Quezon City alive after the family of the merchant marine captain living in the house caught him.

The family of three beat up and stabbed him to death before he could escape with his loot yesterday morning.

Retired merchant marine captain Rafael Torres, 69; his wife Anita, 46; and their son Rafael Christopher, 29, ganged up on the trespasser in their house at 58 Sampaguita St. at Maligaya Subdivision, Novaliches, Quezon City, said investigator SPO1 Cresencio C. Bajao, of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

They described the suspect as about 5-foot-7 in height, barefooted, and wearing a black shirt and denim pants. The robber also had a rose tattoo on the left chest, Bajao added.

The police recovered a cal. .38 revolver from the suspect, who was still clutching the gun when investigators arrived.

He said the attempted robbery happened around 3 a.m. while the Torreses were sleeping.

The robber broke into the house by destroying the cyclone wire fence. He then destroyed the iron grills of the kitchen door.

Once inside, the suspect took P700, a cellular phone, and the elder Torres' wallets, Bajao said.

Unfortunately for the robber, he opened the door of Rafael Christopher's room, Bajao added.

Rafael Christopher was in the room and he saw the suspect, who tried to run out the house.

Ex-rebel shot dead

By Christian V. Esguerra

A FORMER leader of the New People's Army was killed while three others were arrested in separate police operations in Valenzuela and Malabon early yesterday morning.

Raul "Ka Oliver" de la Cruz, 37, was trying to escape when Malabon policemen shot him dead at his hideout in Dinalagad, Karuhatan, Valenzuela about 1:30 a.m.

A team under Inspectors Noel Lasquite, Oliver Lucero, and Virgilio Olalia was supposed to arrest De la Cruz for robbery on the strength of a warrant issued by Judge Romeo Quilantang.

But the suspect, who was in his underwear, saw the police casing his house. He tried to make a run for it and fired at the lawmen, police said.

PO1 Federico Base fired back and hit De la Cruz in the neck. The suspect died before he could reach the Polo District Hospital, police said.

Three hours later, the same police team arrested three more members of De la Cruz's "Alonsabe" gang. Police identified the suspects as Erwin "Ka Gally" Lumasac, 31, Allan Rodriguez, 24, and his brother Edwin, 26.

They were arrested in their hideout on Sioson Street, Dampalit, Malabon.

Authorities said the gang was behind the spate of robbery and kidnapping incidents in northern Manila and nearby provinces.

On June 30, the group allegedly took a vault containing P5 million in cash and jewelry from the house of one Joel Samonte in Taliptip, Bulacan, Bulacan.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Wednesday, August 8, 2001
18th Week in Ordinary Time
1st Reading: Num 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29, 34-35
Gospel: Mt 15:21-28

Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Now a Canaanite woman came from those borders and began to cry out, "Lord, Son of David, have pity on me! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not answer her, not even a word. So his disciples approached him and said, "Send her away: see how she is shouting after us."

Then Jesus said to her, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the nation of Israel."

But the woman was already kneeling before Jesus and said, "Sir, help me!" Jesus answered, "It is not right to take the bread from the children and throw it to the little dogs." The woman replied, "It is true, sir, but even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their master's table." Then Jesus said, "Woman, how great is your faith! Let it be as you wish." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Commentary

In the early Church Christians were not always aware of the full dimensions of their mission. They were often rather harsh to outsiders, symbolized by the disciples who asked Jesus to send the pagan woman away. Jesus also recognizes his mission to the lost sheep of Israel, but gives credit to her faith. Instead of sending her away, Jesus sets an example and allows the woman to share in the privileges of God's people. Today's reading invites us Christians to be sensitive to the living faith of many people outside the institutional boundaries of the Church and to share God's goodness with them.

Heavenly Father, we are often narrow-minded in the definition of our mission. Open our eyes to see the needs of others and teach us to share your gifts with them.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CIVIL PROCEDURE/EVIDENCE)—General rule that factual findings of trial court accorded great respect; exceptions— It is a well-recognized principle that factual findings of trial courts, as well as their assessment of the credibility of witnesses, are entitled to great weight and respect by this Court more so when these are affirmed by the Court of Appeals. The rule, however, is not without exceptions, such as: (1) when the conclusion is a finding grounded entirely on speculations, surmises and conjectures; (2) the inferences made are manifestly mistaken; (3) there is grave abuse of discretion; (4) the judgment is based on misapprehension of facts or premised on the absence of evidence on record. Especially in criminal cases where the accused stands to lose his liberty by virtue of his conviction, the Court must be satisfied that the factual findings and conclusions of the lower courts leading to his conviction satisfy the standard of proof beyond reasonable doubt. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Gonzaga-Reyes, Third Division, People v. Gulion, G.R. No. 141183, January 18, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

Tour guide shot dead, dumped in bay

By Jerome Aning

POLICE are looking for a security guard who allegedly shot dead a tourist guide and dumped his body in Manila Bay from a ship docked at the Port Area in Manila last Sunday.

The bloated body of William Malinao, a resident of 136 Polilio St., Siniguelasan, Bacoor, Cavite, was barely recognizable when it was found floating in Manila Bay near the Army & Navy Club about 7:30 a.m. yesterday.

The body was brought to the Tres amigos Funeral Homes in Paco.

The victim's brother, Antonio Jr., identified the body.

SPO4 Solomon Batalier of the WPD homicide section said he has spoken to several witnesses who positively identified watchman Ben Torres, an employee of the Olga Protective Agency, as the killer. But the witnesses would only come out after the suspect is caught, he said.

Malinao boarded the MV Trident Fortune, docked at the Bureau of Customs port at the Manila South Harbor, about 1 a.m. last Sunday, SPO4 Batalier said.

The tourist guide was to collect payment for the liquor he sold to one of the ship's employees.

While waiting for the employee, Malinao was invited by Customs Officer II Santiago Carranza to a drinking spree with other ship workers, including Torres.

Quoting witnesses, SPO4 Batalier said that after a few minutes, Carranza and Torres started arguing. Malinao tried to pacify the opponents but the guard became furious, drew his shotgun and allegedly opened fire at the victim, who was hit in the neck. He then carried Malinao and threw him overboard.

Batch '77

MEMBERS of Class '77 of San Francisco High School (formerly Don M. Marcos High School) in Quezon City are invited to their regular meeting at F. Benitez Hall, UP Diliman in Quezon City on Aug. 11, 2001 at 5 p.m.

Class members may contact Edna Dolores at 453-2163; Virgie Basa-Cortina, 371-3773; Beverly Coronado-Samia, 924-3244; Gloria Garcia, 926-6271; and Satur Madrinico at 920-6721.

The philosophy . . .

(From page A26)

spite his pathetic appearance—he always seems in need of a good shower—he can still charm women with his smarts. Dex is still the Lothario of his college days.

The key to his irresistibility is the Tao of Steve, which he has perfected over the years, and which he has no qualms about sharing with disciples, one of which is his young roommate Dave (Kimo Wills).

Principles

I know you're curious so here goes. Principle No. 1 is patterned after the Buddhist precept of eliminating one's desires. If a guy really wants to get laid, then he shouldn't want to.

Principle No. 2: Do something excellent in the woman's presence.

Principle No. 3: When you have the woman's interest, retreat. "We pursue that which retreats from us," Dex wisely instructs.

As the film goes on, we see Dex practicing what he preaches.

Part of the film's charisma is the fact that we all knew a Dex in college. In the case of Duncan North, one the film's writers, he is Dex; or was, as we come to understand that all Dexes have their Waterloos.

The Dex in the film stumbles when he meets Syd (played by Greer Goodman, who co-writes the screenplay), a girl who went to his college but whom he never remembers. Dex immediately falls for Syd and for the first time, he has a Catch-22 of his own: Is Syd one for the Tao of Steve or is she the real thing?

Dialog-driven

At the start of the film, and every so often thereafter, are shown flashes of the books that Dex has read—Kierkegaard, Kant, Plato, Aquinas, Descartes, Spinoza, Virgil and many others. Their philosophies turn up in popularized street lingo throughout the conversations between the characters—a credit to the writers who've obviously done their homework.

"The Tao of Steve" is an example of a dialog-driven film, where all of the characters display their own sophisticated wit and humor. It's a smart film with a smart script and smart performances.

First-time director Jenniphr Goodman (that's really the spelling), Greer's sister and the third screenplay writer, craftily shoots most of the scenes in real time, letting the characters soak in our consciousness. We realize that these people are talking about what we think about ourselves. "The things we think of but do not say," as a line from Jerry Maguire goes.

Verbal skirmishes

Whether he's pontificating in his drunken stupor or instructing his young disciple ("Don't ever get yourself within a girl's category of friend. It's harder to get out of than Alcatraz"), Dex gets to deliver most of the quotable quotes.

For instance, have you ever considered the making of a Long Island iced tea as a metaphor for the development of world religions? Have you heard of the male insanity syndrome—the disease that supposedly afflicts all committed men? How about the theory that marriage is the most serious obstacle to self-enlightenment? Or that the slacker's lack of ambition is a reflection of his Buddha-like detachment?

The best verbal skirmishes occur between Dex and Syd, with the latter able to deliver the phantom punch. Looking deep into the eyes of Dex, she tells him the tragedy of Don Giovanni—that he slept with thousands of women because he was afraid he couldn't be loved by one.

"The Tao of Steve" is irresistible. If you're looking for a film to talk about, this one supplies plenty of ammunition for light-hearted debate.

Go see this film, and if it's not showing by the time this article comes out, then wait for it at the video shop.

A circus . . .

(From page A26)

four little words uttered with sizable flourish by thespian Bernardo Bernardo (interviewed right after KC's first performance): "A star is born."

When fashion merchandiser Ben Chan cast Ms Concepcion in the role of image model for his alternative clothes shop Human, he said he was lucky to have signed her up. "A prize catch," he described her.

Trumpets, the theater company, must be hoping KC would be as flawless a charm to the musical. It's been staged before, but not with such attendant hoopla, although it's a pretty piece of work to start with. Talent-wise alone, I'm sure the accomplishment would be difficult to reprise elsewhere in Asia.

However, while I do not regret breaking a very stringent personal schedule (Neverland precisely at 9 p.m.) to be at the Meralco theater – five cities away from my bed – in the middle of the week, I am hard-pressed to remember one line from the many songs.

Oh, except "I have a soul!" — a phrase that I though needed extensive elucidation. But his is material for a serious thesis.

Colorful, but. . .

The "Little Mermaid" character Crustacea is c certainly colorful, but for all her malevolence, she is not likely to drive me up the wall as surely as the gossipy carnivores in "Jurassic 3," who almost surely have fatally-foul breath, among other character flaws.

"Moulin Rouge" opened the 54th Cannes Film Festival. Nicole Kidman led glamorous, high-profile post-screening partygoers, screaming "Let's dance!" and moving to the grooves of... Fatboy Slim.

It's a scene that might be imagined possible in Argo's kingdom under the sea, before his darling daughter Jewel turned into flotsam, for love's sake. I dare anyone to try such a feat on the Isla Sorna, without aggravating the humorless pterodactyls.

Nicole·Kidman after Tom Cruise

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

FOR 10 heady years, Nicole Kidman was the envy of many women, because she was married to their favorite dreamboat, Tom Cruise. Then Cruise left her high and dry in divorce court, and Kidman's fairytale world crumbled.

Some show biz observers expected her to clutch at straws, to beg, to rush into another liaison, but Nicole has done nothing o the sort. Instead, she's concentrated all of her energies on her children – and on singing and dancing in her first musical film, Baz Luhrman's "Moulin Rouge," now the toast of the movie world.

Sure, Cruise is the prince of Hollywood, but Kidman is more than just his former squeeze. In fact, she Hollywood's hottest female sensation of the moment, thanks to her showstopping performance in Luhrman's latest cinematic humdinger.

All this while, Nicole has been putting up a brave front regarding the abrupt end of her heady romance with Cruise. Last week, however, she guested on Oprah Winfrey's TV show to plug "Moulin Rouge," and she lowered her guard a little.

She confessed that the break-up was unexpected, and thus had knocked the wind out of her sails and brought her to her knees, emotionally speaking. For a time, she lived from day to day, simply grateful that she hadn't gone off the deep end.

In time, with the help of her children, other family members and friends, she realized that she had to do much more than just survive: she had to move on. And her brilliant star turn in "Moulin Rouge" has ensured her emergence as a major star in her own right, without her old, trusty Tom Cruise connection.

But Kidman stopped short of dissing her ex-husband. That would have been the easiest thing for her to do, because it was his one-sided decision that had shattered her world. But, for the sake of their children, she has been absolutely scrupulous about leaving him untainted as a father figure in their kids' eyes.

Oprah is an expert at sweetly convincing her guests to open up and bare their wounds, but Nicole was so determined to hold on to some vestiges of her privacy – and her former husband's dignity – that even the world's reigning Queen of Talk eventually had to shut up.

Besides, Kidman's flaring, flaming performance in "Moulin Rouge" says it all, albeit in cinematic metaphor: the actress and woman has learned painful lessons from life's low blows, but she is concentrating, not on the pain, but on the challenges that the future will bring, ever hopeful that happiness could be hers once again< this time with a less devious love.

TV treats

AT 8 tonight on Star World, "The Drew Carey Show." Carey plays an assistant director of personnel at a department store whose longtime friends include a would be dise jockey, a pup-culture freak and a tomboy.

In the first episode of the show's second season, it's employee evaluation time and everyone is kissing up to Drew. However, problems arise when h is girlfriend, Lisa, learns that he has given her a less-than-stellar rating. This sets off an all-out war of practical jokes and pranks.

Thursday, Aug 9 at 9 p.m. on the National Geographic Channel, "Ford's Heroes for the Planet – Earthpulse" focuses on thriving as well as devastated reefs in the Philippines. The poisonous and now illegal practice of cyanide fishing has to be replaced with other methods.

In other portions, Bobo, a pet bear in Cambodia, is given a new lease on life in a sanctuary; eco-adventurer Hyaden Turner explores geothermal energy in Iceland, and Deborah Abraham reports on a new method developed in Greece to clean oil spills.

Saturday, Aug. 11 at 7:30 p.m. on Star Movies, "Rocky IV" stars Sylvester Stallone. Rocky takes on a Russian boxer who has fatally injured his friend, in the longest fight in his life.

Sunday, Aug. 12 at 9 p.m. on Star Movies, "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back." Yoda, master Jedi, subjects Luke Skywalker to strenuous training to strengthen the boy's knowledge of the Force. Meanwhile, Han Solo and Princess Leia seek refuge in Cloud City to evade the legions of Darth Vader and his evil empire.

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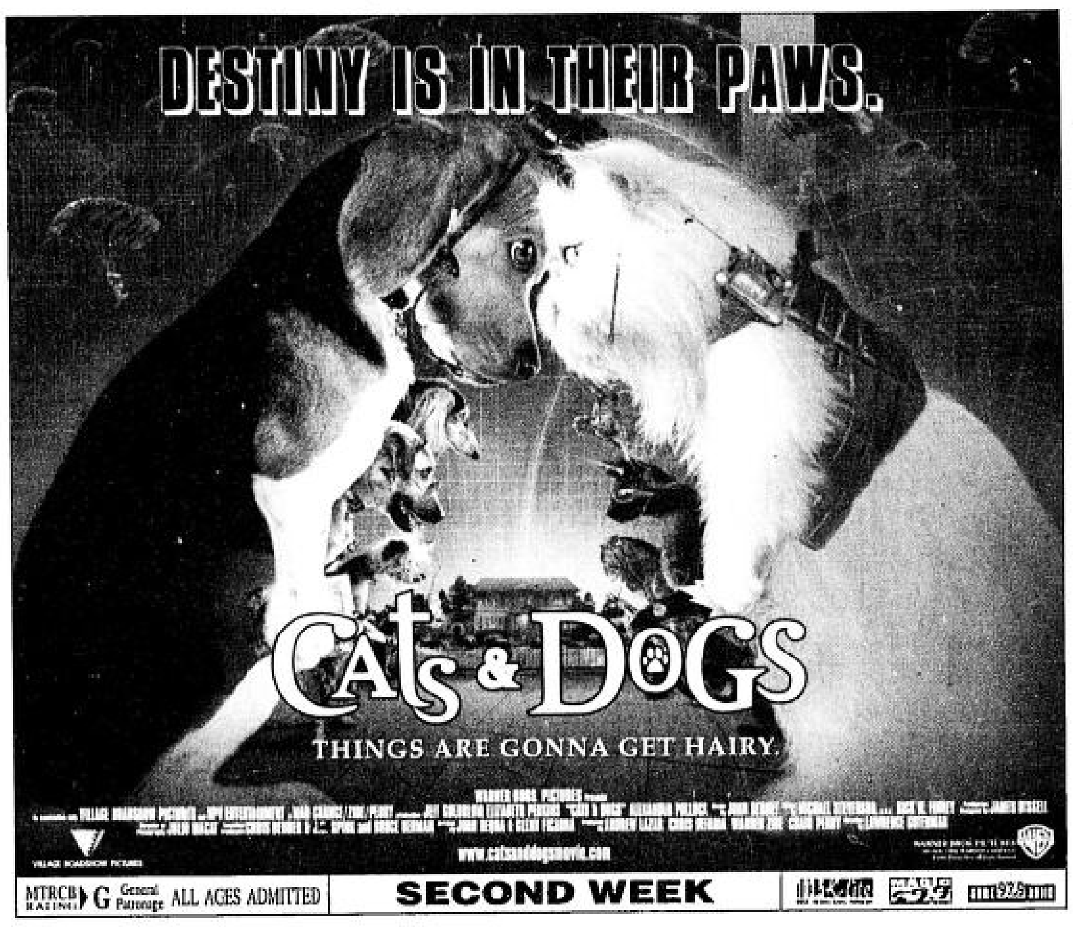

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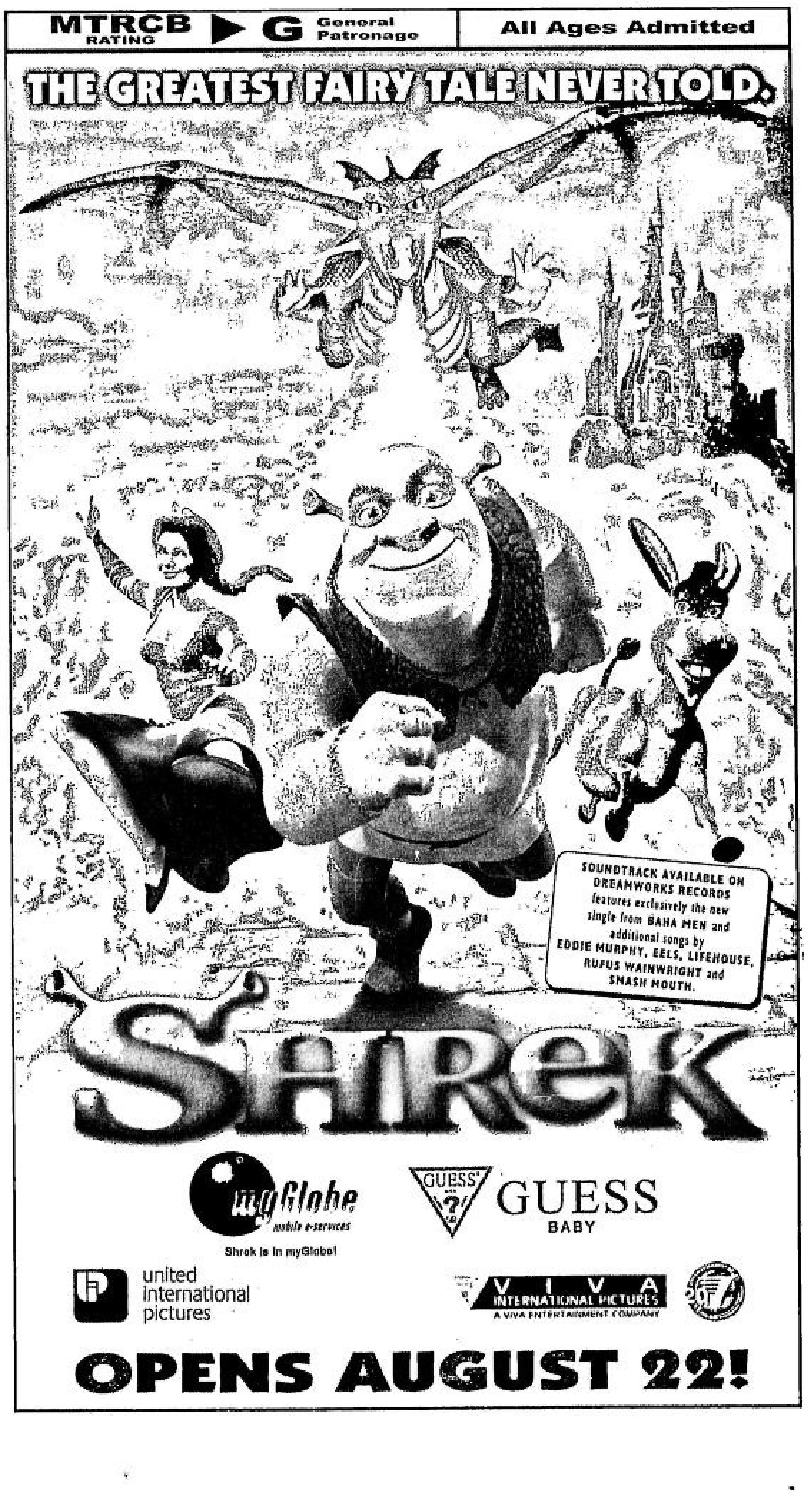
KISS OF THE DRAGON - R 18 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:35, 9:50	JURASSIC PARK 3 - P 13 11:25, 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:50	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY - P 13 11:20, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10

Matinee: P80, Mon.-Fri, 11:10 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.



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UB at 53

For its 53rd year of existence, UB has adopted the theme "We, Together In Service" to focus the attention of the UB community on a coordinated, not fragmented, service not only in the school but also in the community outside if the school. In the word of UB President Virgilio C. Bautista, such a concerted action will generate far reaching effects on a wider scale.

School terms end; university presidents retire; school founders fade away; but educational institutions go on in order to pursue the objectives for which they have been founded. It is within this context that the University of Baguio will march on and outlive its founders and the people who serve it.

UB has reached its 53rd year of fruitful educational service. Basking in its solid belief in the pursuit of perfection and envisioning itself to be a leading educational institution, it is riding high on its five decades of productive educational endeavors, thanks to the pioneering spirit and the visionary dreams of its Founders: Dr. Fernando "Tatay" G. Bautista and Mrs. Rosa "Nanay" C. Bautista, who built a school that has remained strong and determined through the years.

UB is one of the few educational institutions that continues to exist beyond 50 years, with one of its founders still alive and strong. While Nanay passed away almost 14 years ago, Tatay remains very active and very much involved at the age of 93. Being a professionally trained teacher and educational administrator, he is still very keen regarding the needs of UB.

UB is like the proverbial mustard seed. In the word of the Lord Jesus, the mustard seed is "the smallest of all the seeds, but when it is grown, it ... becomes a tree." (Matthew 13: 32)

UB is headed by the sixth son of the Founders, Dr. Virgilio C. Bautista, a man of action who has the ability to concretize and realize his vision and dreams for the University.

Within the past nine (9) years that he has been at the helm of UB, four buildings have been constructed and one acquired.

To date, the programs of eight UB Colleges are enjoying different levels of accreditation by the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities - Commission on Accreditation (PACU-COA). The programs of the Colleges of Liberal Arts, Commerce and Education are on the Level II Second Re-accredited status; the programs of Dentistry and Engineering, Level II First Re-accredited status; and the programs of Criminology, Hotel and Restaurant Management, and Medical Technology, Level I. The last three Colleges were visited by PACU-COA accreditors for the Level II accredited status on June 27-28, 2001.

The University of Baguio has linkages with several local and foreign schools for faculty and student exchanges and agencies accommodating its students who are on-the-job training or go for internship: Phon Commercial and Technical College, Thailand; Nagasaki Wesleyan Junior College, Japan; Hangzhou Teachers College, PROC; University of Adelaide, Australia; Moscow Linguistic University, Russia; Rajabhat Institute Maha Sarakham, Thailand; National Graduate University, USA; Myrtle Beach in South Carolina, Hotel Hershey in Pennsylvania, Canyon Ranch in Massachusetts, Inn at Little Washington in Virginia, Peabody Hotel in Orlando, Omni Hotel in Dallas, Sofitel Hotel in Texas, and Hershey's Resort in Virginia - all in the USA; Singapore Raffles Hotel, Singapore Carlton Ritz Hotel, Marriot Hotel, Dennis Class "A" Restaurant, Pan Pacific Hotel, Pan Plaza Hotel and Fullerton Hotel - all in Singapore; Shangri-La Hotel and Phuket Hotel in Bangkok; Hyatt Regency in Macau; Denmark Hotel in Denmark; Academy Tours Company in Seoul; University of Asia and the Pacific, Manila; Texas Instruments (Phil.), Baguio City; National Power Corporation - CAR; Allegro Micro Systems, Parañaque; Metal Industry Research and Development Center, Taguig, MM. The list does not include the medical centers/hospitals where UB graduating students of Medical Technology, Physical Therapy, and Nutrition and Dietetics have their internship.

The performance of a school's graduates in the licensure examinations given by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) is one of the strong indicators of the quality of the school concerned. In a report published by the PRC regarding the results of licensure examinations taken by UB graduates from 1994 to 1998, UB examinees performed highly in the exams for Criminology and Master Plumber by registering a 5 percent high and 2.5 percent high, respectively. It is a matter of record also that UB has produced topnotchers in Criminology, Dentistry, Sanitary Engineering; Medical Technology, and Physical Therapy.

When asked for comments, UB President Dr. Virgilio C. Bautista became reminiscent and said, "As I look back at the past nine years of my presidency and even before that, I remember Isaiah 58:11, 'Yahweh will always guide you, giving you relief in desert places. He will give strength to your bones and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never run dry.' (condensed from the article of Fr. Crispin S. Puruganan)

U.B.

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DENTISTS

Dr. Galanza, Jospher Asuncion
(13th Place, 2001)

Dr. Abriol, Elisa M.
Dr. Badongen, Elvie B.
Dr. Baklan, Janet P.
Dr. Balabag, Lyrah Mel B.
Dr. Balajadia, Reynald L.
Dr. Benito, Michelle C.
Dr. Casem, Ronald B.
Dr. Centeno, Genesis S.
Dr. De Vera, Imelda C.
Dr. Deocaris, Rhoda P.
Dr. Erker, Jacqueline F.
Dr. Estoque, Allan O.
Dr. Garcia, Rommel B.
Dr. Gayudan, Teresita P.
Dr. Magalued, Sharon Joy T.
Dr. Molina, Jonathan P.
Dr. Nicolas, May M.
Dr. Oquendo, Jawi G.
Dr. Pascual, Rowena A.
Dr. Rimpilio, Vilma C.
Dr. Ruiz, Maria Filipina R.
Dr. Salibad, Lea Fe S.

December 1999
Dr. Bautista, Jennifer A.
Dr. Bernardo, Araceli G.
Dr. Buenavista, Buenafe B.
Dr. Costales, Rosemarie R.
Dr. Cristobal, Linda M.
Dr. Evangelista, Arlene G.
Dr. Galao, Judy D.
Dr. Herrero, Joseph Charles
Dr. Hilario, Mary Grace
Dr. Lardizaval, Marlene Concepcion
Dr. Marzan, Delrose M.
Dr. Sarmiento, Joahana A.
Dr. Tumbaga, Arlene F.
Dr. Ulanimo, Jocelyn S.
Dr. Wayatwag, Mary G.

May 1999
Dr. Cariño, Carmencita G.
Dr. De Leon, Leonardo B.
Dr. Dela Cruz, Marichu B.
Dr. Dela Cruz, Ricky D.
Dr. Dicang, Raimar B.
Dr. Facunia, Christian Emily
Dr. Francisco, Imelda S.
Dr. Iwatani, Florentina R.
Dr. Lacqueen, Jonilyn S.
Dr. Lingbaoan, Jannete Ma. B.
Dr. Marzan, Maya W.
Dr. Obille, Genevieve A.
Dr. Pangcog, Antonia

PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

February 6 & 7, 2001
Agaya, Janice S.
Alcantara, Fidel Jr.
Aucena, Mildred
Bacuijag, Dennis
Balolao, Christopher
Bronner, Mark
Estabaya, Melissa
Garcia, Jervy
Garcia, Stephannie
Herrero, Christine
Imbat, Marvin
Macato, Maribel
Mendoza, Apollo
Palor, Ma. Victoria
Piniac, Arnold
Quiambao, Cary
Sanchez, Ronaldo
Santos, Emmalyn
Sonson, Myra

August 2000
Asuncion, Rodelyn D.
Camhit, Eleanor C.
Dapuyen, Eunice L.
Diaz, Ruth B.
Domingo, Junzen B.
Dy, Mylene M.
Gapatan, Jenalyn A.
Ibay, Rosabel C.
Laoang, Rona Y.
Nolasco, Jocelyn D.

CIVIL ENGINEERS

Adop, Freddie
Bangoa, Czar
Haduca, Michael
Javilonar, Rhoderick
Tariga, Melvin

ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERS

Eral, Jerome
Garrido, Alexander
Mendoza, Ian

LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS FOR TEACHERS (LET)

August 2000
Secondary Level
Abalos, Teresita A.
Aguilo, Andrew B.
Alegre, Arnel B.
Alfonso, Rhodora A.
Amilao, Marvie C.
Armas, Shirley D.
Ayengan, Rebecca D.
Balway, Bernadette P.
Bangloy, Victor Jr. M.
Bantiyan, Catherine M.
Bautista, Rudely P.
Bongalt, Cipriano Q.
Bulaglag Emilee Vincent D.
Carmelo, Ma. Michaela P.
Castada, Ernesto Jr. B.
Centino, Belen S.
Chumanao, Berto C.
Collado, Reynante E.
Culbengan, Lindbergh A.
Dalire, Decelyn C.
De Vera, Jenny G.
Esteban, Ildie L.
Estigoy, Maribelle R.
Guevarra, Jerry C.
Langiden, Herbert L.
Laureta, Darell John T.
Madalang, Obie Noe B.
Maloc, Marshal Percival W.
Mangiwet, Mary Joyce G.
Manuel, Jennifer D.
Medrano, Adelaida C.
Mique, Melody Joy V.
Nangilhan, Anabelle D.
Olosan, Gannisi W.
Padilla, Mary T.
Pecdasen, Heide P.
Pigtuan, Selina V.
Ponchin, Jocelyn L.
Quiades, Janet A.
Quinto, Diana Ross P.
Quisora, Candy E.
Sabian, Grace L.
Sagun, Margie C.
Simbulan, Teresa L.
Sotelo, Ricky L.
Tabaquin, Carol D.
Tabula, Rommel V.
Tactay, Tirso P.
Tomas, Romeo P.
Tongpo, Ruben Jr. P.
Torres, Edwin C.

Elementary Level
Abellera, Tina Marie L.
Acosta, Arlene S.
Angala, Rowena L.
Angel, Narlita D.
Baltazar, Teresa V.
Boblas, Salve Reina B.
Bongayal, Helen B.
Busicao, Auregleah P.
Cabanatan, Edna M.
Cadiz, Rowelyn S.
Calixto, Carmelita D.
Cancio, Jesusa C.
Canggat, Annie I.
Culson, Lilybeth B.
De Asis, Maybelle B.
De Vera, Daisy C.
Ecijan, Eduardo Jr. S.
Forlales, Ma. Olivia G.
Ganon, Nellie T.
Geneza, Elsie M.
Grupo, Dianalyn A.
Inere, Richel D.
Inong, Arleen B.
Jimenez, Josephine C.
Julalla, Portia Leslie N.
Khayog, Esterlyn D.
Kiwan, Ay-ayafin B.
Leiina, Marry Ann L.
Lipawen, Remedios D.
Lorenzo, Catherine L.
Lucas, Jessica V.
Maer, Maria Nora D.
Malingan, Roselle D.
Malingan, Susan D.
Mata, Arnel D.
Mendoza, Mary Grace D.
Molano, Elizabeth S.
Morden, Dionisia J.
Naboa, Neilyn B.
Narbonita, Ma. Teresita M.
Nariz, Sheila B.
Nidoy, Luzviminda A.
Nimes, Erwin E.
Nool, Joji V.
Obra, Evangeline C.
Orel, Annie Jane D.
Osay, Gloria T.
Pagnas, Thelma M.
Penalver, Yolanda B.
Pimienta, Cresencia C.
Pizarro, Angelita A.
Sanchez, Editha R.
Soriano, May A.
Sunio, Gemma T.
Tabing, Rose Marie T.
Tela, Maria Jesusa R.
Umayam, Mieabelle D.
Vallejo, Sofia Janet M.
Villacentino, Hilda F.
Villanueva, Perlita F.
Ymasa, Imee A.

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS

March 2001
Aberin, Jeanette A.
Antonio, Julieta M.
Arciaga, Carol L.
Awkit, Florence L.
Cheng, Bartolome Jr. M.
Co, Juanito Jr. M.
Corrales, Michelleen D.
Davac, Analyn L.
Ferrido, Ellyn Rose B.
Gabriel, Marisol D.
Gazmin, Cherryl D.
Gualberto, Angelica C.
Guinanghan, Aida P.
Ilagan, Ava Glady A.
Javier, Ma. Cresencia R.
Kubaron, Rosalie A.
Macario, Epifanio Jr. G.
Monderin, John Froilan V.
Najera, Amable
Ramel, Leocel P.
Ramil, Hermajin M.
Sabado, Elvira S.
Sanchez, Florence O.
Sandalo, Rachelle O.
Tandingan, Gerlie P.
Templanza, John August
Trinidad, Celito B.
Valenzuela, Cherry S.
Villanueva, Sherryl J.
Yag-ao, Reyneth B.

September 2000
Abellaneda, Fean Joyce A.
Andres, Paolo Antonio III T.
Aplado, Debbie A.
Asuncion, Sharon R.
Ballecer, Priscilla B.
Baslingan, Maritess C.
Batanes, Lisandra L.
Bistayan, Charlyn K.
Bugtong, Alicia A.
Caliboso, Leah I.
Calibuso, Hazel Joy H.
Caneta, Mercedes S.
Caranta, Marivic P.
Cervantes, Mary Grace D.
Cister, Ma. Derla D.
Consolacion, Maricon D.
Dawey, Editha M.
De Jesus, Bernardo Jr. B.
Dela Cruz, Ma. Rosewynne
Dela Cruz, Vic Aldo
Deloeg, Sharon N.
Delos Santos, Elaine Ruth P.
Deocales, Loyda J.
Diola, Jonathan
Estebal, Rhodorá D.
Gabriel, Sheril R.
Galo, Elsie J.
Garcia, Ma. Victoria Gracia
Gomez, Nhadj N.
Guzon, Gay Isobel
Heruela, Leahbelle E.
Isidro, Ronalyn L.
Javier, Danny G.
Labiano, Paz S.
Licudan, Aireen U.
Lumiqued, Louella O.
Martinez, Oliver S.
Muñoz, Kahleen M.
Narcilla, Arlene C.
Nayve, Mary Lyn B.
Oflaza, Jeje G.
Orina, Laarni B.
Pagtalunan, Maricel S.
Parayno, Reggie F.
Ramirez, Dennis S.
Salabao, Salvi B.
Santillan, Romaenia F.
Santos, Glenn
Sito, Maria Lourdes B.
Supanga, Elizabeth G.
Tomas, Judith M.
Villanueva, Maria Coleen E.

CRIMINOLOGISTS

Alafriz, Heinrich Panganiban
(2nd Place, 2001)
Camhol, Adree Michelle
(1st Place, 2000)

Male
Atuban, Rodel A.
Balat, Denver D.
Bandao, Edgar D.
Baquedqued, Victor Y.
Bongtayon, Michael
Catimo, Wilvin L.
Cumahleng, Julius V.
Cuyahon, Jerome
Dangiwan, Celestino A.
Dawaweng, Tirso S.
De Guzman, Richard
Domogen, Paulino Jr. S.
Dullas, Leonel A.
Dulnuan, Federico
Fianza, Juvihnil D.
Gadayos, Rossauro D.
Gannaban, Ben Jr. T.
Gotgotao, John D.
Guzman, Denver P.
Guzman, Robert L.
Hortelano, Geofrey
Inway, Agusto
Iserio, Romer Jr. E.
Javier, Romel
Juan, Romulo Jr. S.
Lamsis, Marcial S.
Lano, Dennis
Libag, Charlie P.
Lingbawan, Aldrin Adrian M.
Lusnong, Geoffrey P.
Luzano, Vencioly M.
Mamuas, Ruben G.
Manghi, Victor
Mejala, Diosdado M.
Mendoza, Tyrel M.
Nakigo, Emmanuel L.
Ocampo, Danilo B.
Padupad, Victor
Pagaddut, Callato
Pascua, Dexter M.
Pedro, Jake D.
Ramos, Rogelio K.
Sabado, Ronald B.
Sab-it, Winfred B.
Sab-it Sanny O.
Sagmayo, William
Tanan, Constancio
Torres, Michael M.
Tuguinay, Revie N.
Ubaldo, Charlemagne E.
Velasco, Joker A.
Vinluan, Ricardo Jr. A

Female
Butic, Olivia P.
De Guzman, Sharon
Dulagan, Sharon P.
Fabian, Marie P
Ham, Cindy R.
Imus, Mary Ann
Laquindan, Marlyn C.
Tiw-an, Angeline B.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

May 2001
Domalanta, Emily M.
Ignacio, Shienna T.
Pineda, Allan P.
Sugue, Neil Anthony L.

October 2000
Bernardino, Lido D.
Catores, Michell A.
Dela Cruz, Sheridan C.
Pablo, Salvador I.

LICENSURE EXAMS FOR FORESTERS

Del Rosario, Manuel L.
Lasangen, Wileen Chiara T.
Malecdan, Frank T.
Pedro, Walter D.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Champion Oration English
YMCA-Academic Olypics
Regional YMCA Acad Olypics
(Ms. Rizalyn Ortega) UB

3rd-Rizal Sun Yat Sen
Citywide Oratorical Contest
(Mr. Johnny Fagyan)

Champion - Oration Filipino

3rd - Swimming

3rd - Women's Volleyball

2nd - Men's Swimming

3rd - Men's Badminton

Best Cheering Group

Best Cheering Group

2nd - Choral Competition

Champion - Folkdance

1st Runner Up - Debate

2nd Runner Up - Creative

DanceBest Cheering Group

2nd - Choral Competition

SERVICE AWARDEES

Bautista, Reinaldo C	40 yrs.	Garcia, Veronica S.	10 yrs.	Herreria, Jeffrey G.	5 yrs.
Belsa, Josefina G.	35 yrs.	Madarang, Juanita B.	10 yrs.	Iloreta, Desiree N.	5 yrs.
Dagarag, Priscilla L.	35 yrs.	Pagnas, Dipni P.	10 yrs.	Imperio, Ma. Chanda V.	5 yrs.
Estoque, Adolfo C.	35 yrs.	Peckley, Miller F.	10 yrs.	Imson, Mario G.	5 yrs.
Bautista, Agnes T.	30 yrs.	Rimorin, Charito L.	10 yrs.	Kedyam, Matthias C.	5 yrs.
Boneng, Jane B.	30 yrs.	Villanueva, Noel	10yrs.	Lagasca, Rogelio	5 yrs.
De Guzman, Reynaldo B.	30 yrs.	Acob, Candelario U.	5 yrs.	Nicolas, Carlo Magno O.	5 yrs.
Eslava, Alicia E.	30 yrs.	Acosta, Freddie R.	5 yrs.	Olat, Janet E.	5 yrs
Fariñas, Daniel T.	25 yrs.	Adnol, Jerome C.	5 yrs.	Padilla, Solomon Jr.	5 yrs.
Puruganan, Crispin S.	25 yrs.	Badilla, Marcelo E.	5 yrs.	Palaoag, Jerry S.	5 yrs.
Sison, Leticia P.	25 yrs.	Belting, Annabelle C.	5 yrs.	Palicdon, Elvis C.	5 yrs.
De Guzman, Teresita G.	20 yrs.	Castañeda, Armando C.	5 yrs.	Pilacan, Tyrone D.	5 yrs.
Silanga, Angelita E.	20 yrs.	Catbagan, Liberty L.	5 yrs.	Pormento, Edgardo G.	5 yrs.
Sumahit, Clarita A.	20 yrs.	Concepcion, Paul James	5 yrs.	Quirimit, Annabelle E.	5 yrs.
Tangalin, Evangeline G.	20 yrs.	Cruz, Reynaldo M.	5 yrs.	Quitiquit, Ma. Cristina P.	5 yrs.
Tuazon, Caridad B.	20 yrs.	Dallis, Homer T.	5 yrs.	Reynon, Sheila T.	5 yrs.
Vinluan, Liberty L.	15 yrs.	Darang, Rosana E.	5 yrs.	Rios, Johnny M.	5 yrs.
Belagan, Glenn M.	10 yrs.	Gascon, Robert H.	5 yrs.	Talusig, Leah A.	5 yrs.
Cael, Basilio G.	10 yrs.	Ged-ang, George A.	5 yrs.	Vinluan, Jesus B.	5 yrs.
Daytec, Jean E.	10 yrs.	Goze, Roel L.	5 yrs.	Lubrica, Abelita V.	5 yrs.
Esguerra, Salvador S.	10 yrs.	Guerrero, Antonina C.	5 yrs.		

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5	RED DIARIES

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3	
4	THE ANIMAL

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3	RESERVE
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4	THE ANIMAL

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
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1	RED DIARIES
2	RADYO
3 (DTS)	THE ANIMAL

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
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1	CATS & DOGS
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3 (DOLBY)	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
4	THE ANIMAL

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
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4	CATS & DOGS

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Morales Cinema
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Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

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2	RADYO
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Fiesta World Mall
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Comedy 'divas' in concert

ALL is set for the special concert of two comedy "divas" who have captured their audiences in their previous shows.

Anton Ragasa, better known as the clone of Songbird Regine Velasquez, belts out any vocally-challenging piece like his idol.

Vice is the counterpart of Asia's Nightingale Lani Misalucha.

Anton and Vice share the stage and present a different concoction of music and antics in "Divas on Fire," tonight at the Downtown stage of Hotel Rembrandt in Quezon City.

Writer-director of the show is Andrew de Real.

To make the evening more special, JBL Productions invited Aiza Seguerra to be the special guest in the concert.

Aiza has charted a hit ballad, "Pagdating ng Panahon," culled from her quadruple platinum album.

RX 93.1 anniversary

THIS month, Monster Radio RX 93.1 turns 18 years old.

Heading the anniversary events are new programs designed to make RX 93.1 "More monster than ever."

These include exciting portions in new daily programs and cutting-edge music programs from Groove Nation, "The Fridge" and "Stealth Beals," which air on Fridays, 10 p.m.

The first batch of semi-finalists – Chernobyl, Grass, Ascension, The Brand New Funk and Feedback — of the RX "Band Breakout" perform live in a showcase, Aug. 9 at Hard Rock Café in Makati.

The bands are on their way to winning a recording contract and P50,000 cash prize.

"RX Onstage" presents the hottest band in the local music scene today, Moonstar 88, in a special concert on Aug. 16 at Cactus Grill in Libis, Quezon City. Moonstar 88 gave such original tunes as "Torete" and Sa Langit."

The RX anniversary party will be held Aug. 27 at Hard Rock Café.

Top bands and artists will perform in the said event.

Aug. 13, the much-awaited "King Baba-jigalu's Getaway" on-air promo will being. The contest offers daily cash prizes and the chance for listeners to win an all-expense paid vacation in a tropical hideaway.

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Donita wants not a boyfriend but a role in a HK movie

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

SO WHAT else is new about **Donita Rose?**

The VJ on MTV Asia is a much sought-after product endorser, ranking only third after **Sharon Cuneta** and **Aga Muhlach**. She starred with Hollywood actor **David Hasselhoff** in the US movie "Legacy," which is now being aired on HBO. She also did a short-lived stint on a Singaporean TV show, "Money."

Now she wants to take her acting career a step further. She expresses desire to audition for a Hong Kong movie.

"**Jet Li** can swing me in the air and I can kick all the bad guys," she says. "The in thing right now in Hong Kong movies dubbed in Cantonese or Mandarin is to cast Pan-Asian leading ladies.".

Donita also wants to write a book that can inspire the youth.

"I want to be able to share how God has truly changed my life," she asserts. "I don't want the book to be preachy or religious. I just want it to inspire young people."

Donita continues to shuttle between Singapore and Manila. Cyber buffs can now get an update on Donita through her website, which was launched last Sunday at Glorietta, supported by Globe Telecom.

Donita recently got an offer from Viva Films to do a movie with **Regine Velasquez**. Regal Films also offered her a special role in a movie with **Mark Anthony Fernandez**.

As MTV VJ, Donita has interviewed many prominent artists and entertainment personalities such as 98 Degrees, **Bon Jovi, Ricky Martin**, The Cranberries, Westlife and **Carson Daly**.

Donita recently interviewed Australian director **Baz Luhrman**, who created the current **Nicole Kidman-Ewan McGregor** starrer, "Moulin Rouge."

While Donita's career is on the upswing, her love life has been idle for more than a year now.

"But I'm not looking for a boyfriend," she insists. "In fact, I'm very careful when it comes to meeting guys. Even when I see a good-looking guy and I know I might end up liking him, I try to stay away. I want to develop friendship first. I'm not in a rush."

Two hours of news

WHILE other networks are constantly beefing up their entertainment programs, National Broadcasting Network (NBN), formerly known as PTV 4, has decided to concentrate on the news. The network recently launched its flagship program, "Tele-Dyaryo," a two-hour nightly newscast.

"We want to underscore the fact that we are a news network," says NBN chair and president **Mia Concio.** "It is what the station has been known for from the start and it is the role that we see for the NBN."

"'TeleDyaryo' combines the urgency of radio broadcasting and the wide coverage of a newspaper," explains network general manager **Joey Isabelo**. "It presents news as an alternative primetime program, which is actually a first on local TV."

At the helm of "Tele-Dyaryo" is veteran TV director **Ed Finlan.** The theme was composed and arranged by young musical director **Jesse Lucas.**

"'TeleDyaryo's two-hour format basically follows that of a newspaper," Concio informs. "There will be segments for updates on business and the economy, interviews with people in the news, special reports, lifestyle, show biz, and sports, another venue the network is known for."

Broadcast personalities, segment and field reporters called "Mga Tagapagbalita" join the primetime news program. They include broadcasters **Gani Oro, Chino Trinidad, Freddie Abando, Noel Perfecto** and **Toby Nebrida**, reporters **Butch Marco** covering police; **Rocky Ignacio** and **Justine Espina,** Malacañang; **Christine Ong,** foreign news; and **Nikka Cleofe,** the weather.

David Nye does interviews with personalities in the news. **Miguel Gil** and **Candace Giron** cover business developments, while **Edmund Rosales** handle science and technology.

MyMy Davao handles lifestyle and entertainment and **Patricia Bermudez** covers sports.

Concio says the station will have other interesting programs and features.

"Sigaw," Mondays, 6 p.m., is a spin-off of the successful campus debate portion of "Hatol ng Bayan," the network's Election 2001 coverage. Nye and **Chi Chi Fajardo** host.

Aiza Seguerra returns to her noontime show roots as she hosts the Sunday noontime program, "Baranggayan," with **Hexilon Alvarez.**

Foreign movies from Solar Films are aired on "Sunday's Big Showdown," 9 p.m.

Despite NBN's low profile, the network has the capabilities to be a major player in the industry.

"We want to maximize the potentials of the network," says Concio. "We're simply following the broadcast tradition of PTV 4 since it started reaching out to people and serving the nation as a government network."

Concio does not want the network's 27 years of broadcast experience be put to waste, especially with NBN's new corporate identity and image.

"We want to maximize the potentials of the network," she says. We're simply following the broadcast tradition of PTV 4 since it started reaching out to people and serving the nation as a government network."

Concio wants to see NBN play a more substantial role in local broadcast industry.

"Now we have for NBN a vision of the future that we want to share with the rest of the country, a vision that is positive as it is dynamic in responding to the fast changing times," she says.

DONITA Rose. Continues to shuttle between Singapore and Manila.

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Schneider, 'ANIMAL': Hayop sakatatawanan

Rob Schneider, lovable Filipino star of the comedy hit DEUCE BIGALOW MALE GIGOLO is back, funnier than ever in Columbia Pictures' THE ANIMAL.

As Marvin Mange, he has the strength of a lion, the agility of a chimpanzee and the affections of... a goat?

Thanks to a life-saving experimental surgery that fuses his body with animal parts, Marvin's dreams of becoming a cop like his dad come true. Armed with new bulging muscles and a keen sense of smell, he even becomes a police hero, as he saves a drowning boy and sniffs out drug smugglers at the airport.

But complications arise when he starts falling for Rianna (Colleen Haskell, *Survivor*), an animal shelter volunteer. Will he finally be able to control his beastly ways with the woman he loves?

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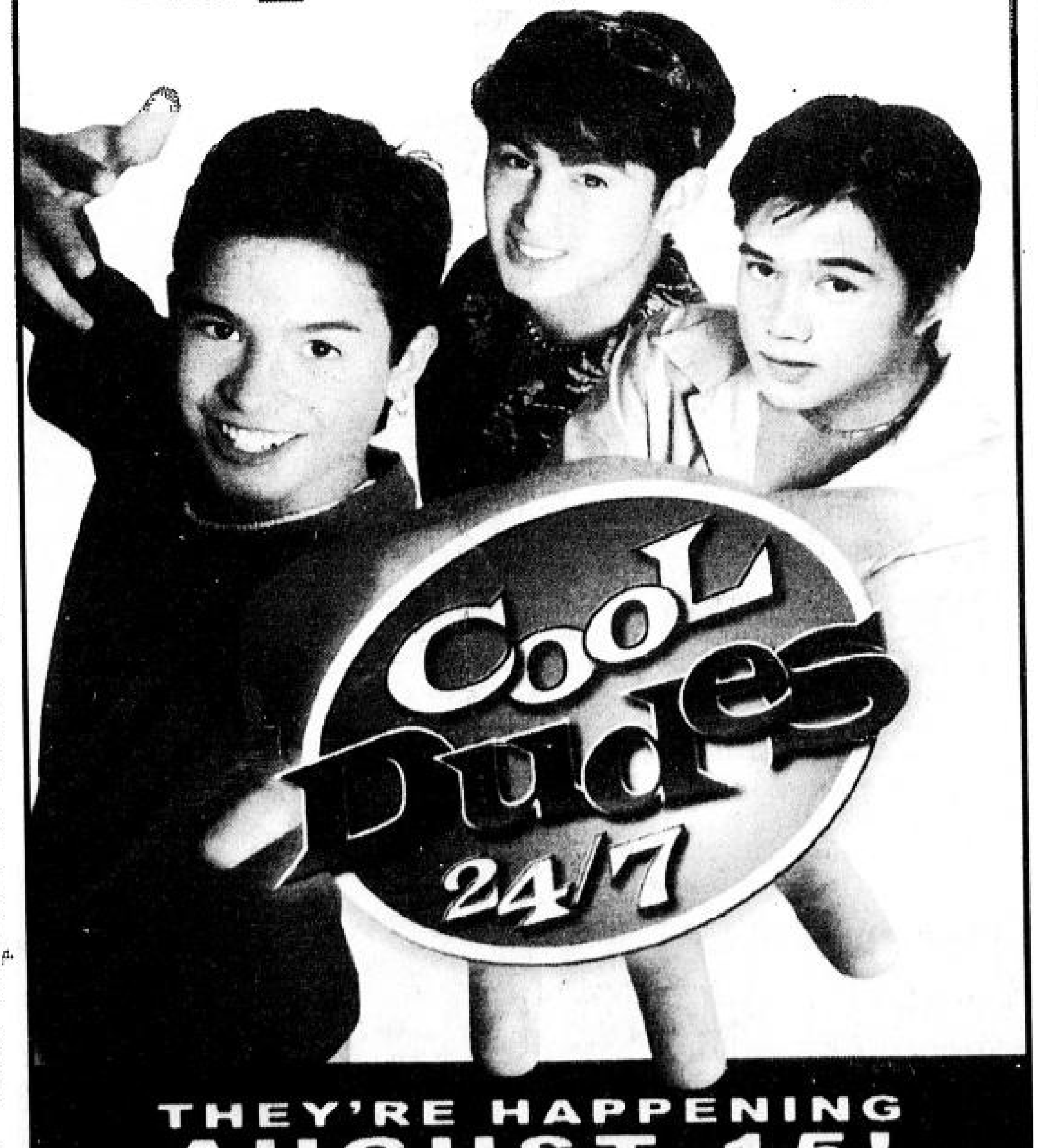

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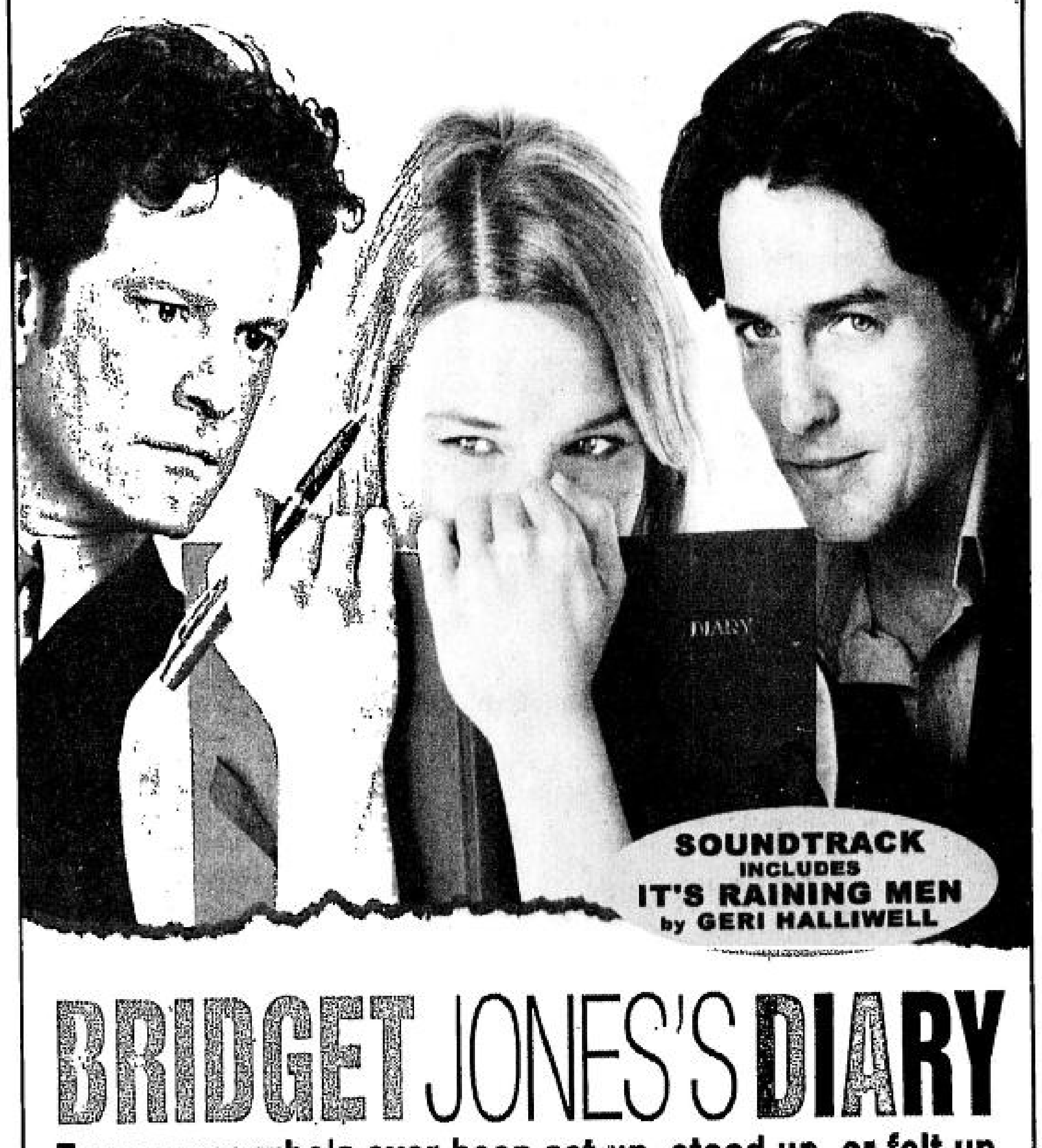
Renée Zellweger Hugh Grant Colin Firth



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ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

'MOULIN ROUGE,' 'LITTLE MERMAID'

A circus vs a new star

BY EMMIE G. VELARDE

REVIEW

WHATEVER you do, don't see "Moulin Rouge" and "Jurassic 3" in the same afternoon. And don't rush to catch KC Concepcion's "Little Mermaid" the following day.

"Sensory overload" used to sufficiently describe jumbled images and impressions that result from such a novel and well-veiled incarnation of greed. When yu have dinosaurs, bohemians, courtesans, and intelligent marine life in the same weekend's menu, you're in for such a massive, possibly simultaneous, breakdown of cognitive systems that "sensory overload" would feel like the cure rather than the malady.

Consider these complications: If it were a female raptor instead of a boy-crazy mermaid obsessing over a human prince, the lad would gladly jump into a Great White's waiting jaws in Clam Beach, California. If the late French artist Toulouse–Lautrec ever tried to match up Ms Mega's beautiful daughter with a starving writer, he'd be dug up from his little grave and slain a second time.

Indeed, if any Trumpets director ever put KC on a flying trapeze for an opening act – as Baz Luhrmann did with Nicole Kidman's Satine character - with a thousand men, or mermen, gasping hugrily below, he can put to eternal rest all hopes of making a Viva or Star Cinema movie in the future. Is this why the title role of the literally swinging Little Mermaid eluded Ms Concepcion?

Death by 3 Ds

Don't get me wrong. (Individually, these three events are worth squeezing into your R&R. But not in the same week of "Jurassic's" opening. Time Magazine declared a "Summer of the Shark" in the United States West Coast, as a result of recent "unprovoked" attacks. The cover story about the much-feared "stalker of the high seas" might have caused a mild coronary here and there, especially since the latest incident had occurred a mere five meters from the shore.

The point: Whose jaws would I rather be caught in?

"Moulin Rouge" presents a much more acceptable manner of passing on to the next life. Death by dance, dalliance, and deception – yea, verily, death by exuberance! Break out into song and perish with a smile! Certainly made me consider writing into my will a lineup of titles for the soundtrack of my life.

Before Elton John started wearing shades bigger than his headgear, I was certain he was the man of my dreams. I had no clue that my all-time favorite, "Mona Lisas and Mad Hatters" (thoughtfully resurrected in Cameron Crowe's bio-pic, "Almost Famous"), was really a proclamation of EJ's two fondest self-visualizations, in that order.

Those legs

Another Elton John classic, "Your Song," is written into Luhrmann's impish libretto, a potent potion of familiar melodies and missives concealed in brand-new beats and unpredictable renditions.

Try to set this into music:

Debussy, McCartney...
Rodgers and Hammerstein...
Sting, Madonna...
U2 and Nirvana!
Something like that.

If Nicole Kidman looks like she was born to sing and dance in this movie about the *fin de siecle* Paris nightclub made famous by can-can dancing prostitutes and Lautrec, it could be because, by her own admission, she "sort of sang in a band" when she was 17. To help explain a few other things, Blondie songs were her forte.

But those legs! And that face utterly devoid of pores!

At the core of unabashedly circus-like milieu, the ex-Mrs. Jerry Maguire stands like an apparition, a madman's lucid moment. No matter the chaos of butts and breasts, lace and limbs, midgets and magicians, one knew exactly, instinctively, who to look at.

Wait. I could also be thinking at this point about KC Concepcion.

Prize catch

Mega Junior's first moments onstage as Princess Sapphire rather clearly heralded the girl's future. In

A CIRCUS/ 21

KIDMAN

CONCEPCION

PHOTO BY ERNIE SARMIENTO

'THE TAO OF STEVE'

The philosophy of scoring with women

BY RUBEN M. CRUZ JR.

REVIEW

I AM extremely grateful to the Glorietta Art Film Center for showing movies that would otherwise have no chance of being shown in local theaters.

Most of the films exhibited in the Art Film Center are not art films in the strictest sense of the term, but low-budget, independent features that are tastefully done and are popularly entertaining. Such films deserve screen time in "mainstream" theaters. I hope other local cineplex owners are listening.

What exactly is "The Tao of Steve"? Is the film about the principles of this ancient Eastern philosophy, Taoism, as explained through this Steve character? For a guy like me who has time and again read "The Tao of Pooh" (yes, it's about Taoism through the eyes of Winnie the Pooh) and who is currently taking adult theology classes at Maryhill (some call it the radical theology school), how can I not see this film with such a catchy title?

Well, "The Tao of Steve" is not exactly about Steve but about the film's hero Dex, who has applied the principles of Taoism and other philosophies to come up with a foolproof and utterly cool thesis on how to score with women.

"Steve" is the paragon of quintessential coolness in a guy. "Steve" is a state of being, and being "Steve" is being the guy who never tries to impress women but always gets them in the end. Women come on to a "Steve" in the same way that "the game" just comes to Michael Jordan.

Why Steve? Because the role models for coolness of the guys in the film are Steves, like Steve McGarrett of "Hawaii Five-O," Steve Austin of "The Six-Million Dollar Man," and the best among them, Steve McQueen.

Enigma

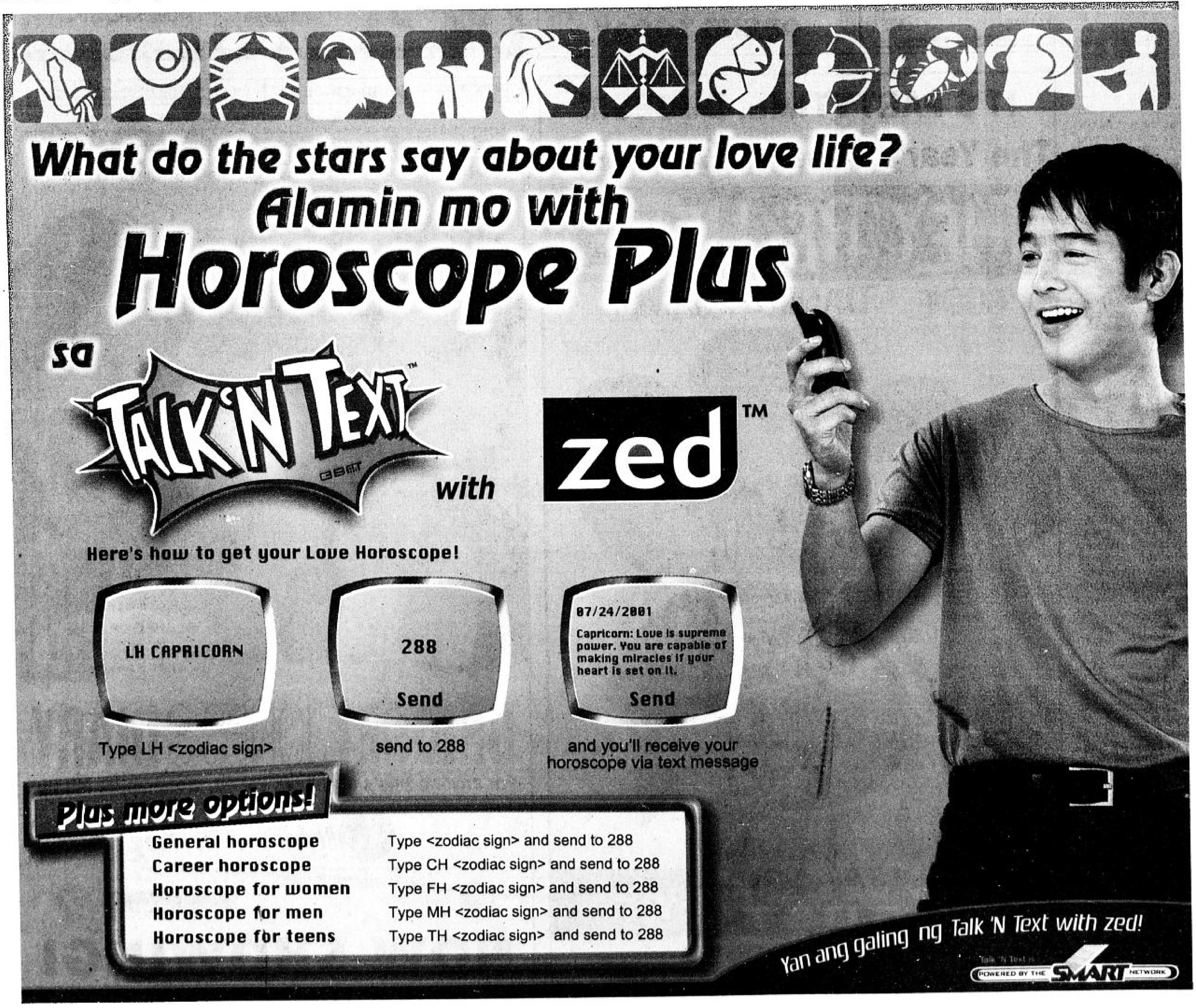
Is this making sense so far? Well, if it doesn't now, it would once you get to meet Dex, portrayed notably by Donal Logue, who received the Special Jury Award at the 2000 Sundance Film Festival for his performance here.

Dex used to be the smartest guy in college, an accomplished babe magnet who could talk his way into the mind and eventually the heart of every woman.

There is no actual prologue in the film to show this piece of information but it is weaved nicely into the opening scenes of the film where we find Dex at his 10-year college reunion, 50-pounds heavier and notoriously underachieving. In college he was predicted to become the most successful student of his batch, a future speaker of the House. Now he is just a fat and aging drifter.

But therein lies the enigma. De

THE PHILOSOPHY/ A21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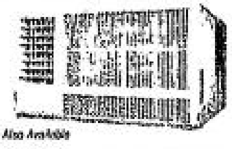

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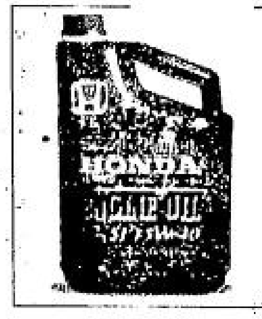

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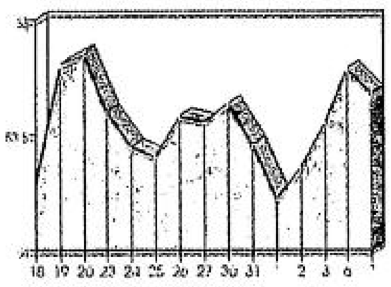

JULY AUGUST

GRAPHS BY ROBERT B. ANDRES

Peso-Dollar Rate

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As of 5 p.m., August 7, 2001

Y123.94 = $1
The US dollar was trading at 123.94 as of 5 p.m., August 7, 2001

GOLD:$266.90/267.40
per ounce Hong Kong, August 7, 2001

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas yesterday warned that the country faces stiffer sanctions from its trading partners, including the suspension of sensitive financial transactions, if Congress fails to enact an anti-money laundering law by Sept. 30.

Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura said some foreign correspondent banks, particularly from the United States, have indicated plans to stop processing transactions of Philippine banks because of the higher cost and inconvenience involved when dealing with a country listed as among the non-cooperative nations when it comes to money laundering.

"Some correspondent banks have said they may start declining the business (with local banks) if a law is not passed soon. After Sept. 30 and we don't have a law yet, foreign banks may eventually ban certain transactions and even accounts they deemed suspicious," the central bank chief said.

The Paris-based Financial Action Task Force has given the Philippines until the end of next month to legislate a law against money laundering. Otherwise, the country would be retained in the list of 17 nations perceived to be uncooperative and whose financial transactions would be keenly scrutinized.

Buenaventura said the country's trade relations might even be impaired if financial transactions were scrutinized.

The central bank has embarked on an information campaign among business groups to solicit support for the anti-money laundering measure. The other day, it conducted a seminar for three Filipino-Chinese business groups.

Money-laundering is the "cleansing" of funds raised from illegal activities like drug-trafficking, kidnapping and racketeering, among others, mainly through banks in countries with lax banking regulations.

One of the important provisions of the pending anti-laundering bills in Congress is the lifting of the secrecy of bank deposits worth P500,000 and above for funds suspected of having been acquired illegally.

Under RA 1405, all bank deposits are considered absolutely confidential and may not be examined by any person or government office without a court order.

The pressure on local banks, according to Buenaventura, started to heat up in June when US-based First Union Bank of Delaware informed 12 local banks, including the country's largest Bank of the Philippine Islands, that it would impose more stringent requirements in processing transactions while the country remained on the laundering list.

Buenaventura said other foreign correspondent banks have followed Delaware's lead and local banks are starting to feel the pinch of such action.

Another BSP official had said that foreign banks started to apply stringent rules on Philippine accounts during the impeachment trial against former President Estrada late last year and the pressure was expected to grow stronger.

The Philippines was retained by the Paris-based task force as well as by the United States in their list of countries "uncooperative" when it comes to money laundering.

"If the pressure intensifies, our foreign transactions would take longer, they would require more documents and eventually, it would become more expensive for our local banks," the Bangko Sentral official said.

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AFTER DEBT PAYMENTS

RFM to net ₱5B from Cosmos sale

By Doris C. Dumlao

RFM Corp. will end up with a cash hoard of P5 billion once it retires its remaining debts using windfall from the sale of profitable soft drink unit Cosmos Bottling Corp.

This was explained by RFM vice president and spokesperson Ramon Lopez during the stockholders' meeting of Cosmos yesterday, noting that the minority stockholders of the soft drinks firm would get the full value of P6.48 per share under the P15-billion deal with San Miguel Corp.

Based on unaudited figures, Lopez said that RFM to date had P2.3 billion in bank debts and P2.8 billion in assets comprising of cash, receivables and investments, thus leaving P500 million which could be distributed as cash dividends to stockholders before the Cosmos turnover to SMC.

The P15-billion enterprise value that SMC has agreed to pay covers 100 percent of Cosmos, representing 2.29 billion shares of which 83.2 percent is owned by RFM.

Lopez explained that RFM would end up with about P10 billion in net cash proceeds from the Cosmos sale, after settling P1.3 billion in cash advances and P1.5 billion in preferred shares held by Cosmos in RFM's food unit Swift Foods Inc.

After retiring its bond redemption obligations, bulk of which has already been covered by proceeds from an earlier sale of assets (including PSI Technologies, Consumer Bank and Blue Bay Tuna), Lopez said RFM would only have P4.5 billion in debts from local creditors.

RFM president and CEO Jose Concepcion III assured the minority stockholders that they would also benefit from the deal with SMC, since the latter would make a tender offer.

RFM bought CBC from the Wong family in 1989 for only P500 million and has since then invested about P1 billion to successfully expand the business and market its flagship Pop Cola and Sarsi brands.

The deal with SMC includes a 10-year non-compete clause but does not include CBC's bottled water business.

During the first half of the year, Cosmos' net income hit P521 million, up 46 percent from the same period last year on the back of a 36-percent increase in sales to P3.4 billion.

Cosmos president Antonio Panajon yesterday reported to stockholders that Cosmos would likely end up with a net profit of P1-P1.1 billion for the full year.

RFM has assured that its remaining businesses, while not as profitable as Cosmos, would offer strong growth prospects.

Logging firm seeks relief on ₱1-B debt

DORMANT logging firm Nasipit Lumber Co. Inc. is seeking a payment moratorium on at least P1 billion worth of debts after years of futile attempts to resume operations.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Nasipit said the petition to suspend actions and proceedings against itself and its subsidiary, Philippine Wallboard Corp., was filed with the Manila Regional Trial Court last Aug. 1.

No data was available as of press time on the level of the total debts owed by the two companies. But based on its last disclosures prior to suspension of operations, the parent company was saddled with at least P1 billion worth of liabilities against only P755 million worth of assets as of end-2000.

"Due to several factors, these corporations encountered difficulties in meeting their obligations to their creditors," the disclosure said.

"With the filing of the petition, the shareholders and the investing public who hold shares of the company will be protected in as much as the danger for the facilities to be attached with no visible plan for its operations will be avoided," it said.

MRT expansion pushed

METRO Rail Transit Corp. celebrated the first year of commercial operation of the Edsa-MRT yesterday with company officials stressing the system's preparedness to serve more commuters.

"We are happy with how the Edsa MRT has served the needs of commuters on Edsa and provided them with an alternative means of transportation that is fast, comfortable and pollution-free," MRTC chair and CEO Robert Sobrepeña said yesterday.

Sobrepeña said the MRT ridership has increased steadily, reaching close to 300,000 daily commuters, with the figure expected to rise considerably with the construction of the 5-kilometer link connecting the MRT's North Triangle station to the Light Rail Transit station in Caloocan, which the consortium is under contract to build.

Once completed, it will form a full railway loop that allows commuters access to both MRT and LRT lines.

Yesterday's anniversary celebrations were marked by exhibits at the Ayala and Shaw stations. Computers were made available to the public to enable them to view the MRT 3's website.

Sobrepeña said this would give the people an opportunity to have a glimpse into the system's capacity to cater to the needs of a growing number of commuters as well as gain a historical perspective of its operations. The exhibit will be open to the public until Aug. 21.

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DISCLOSURES

BELLE Corp. said it was not planning to transfer any of its shares in **Tagaytay Highlands International Golf Club Inc.** and **Tagaytay Midlands Golf Club Inc.** to **Highlands Prime** as earlier reported.

* * *

RFM Corp. said that at its current valuation, the effective price per share of **Cosmos Bottling Corp.** was around P6.48.

* * *

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas approved on July 27 **PHILIPPINE Savings Bank's** plan to establish 13 new banking offices.

* * *

A. BROWN Co. Inc. announced the resignation of Gerardo Lanuza Jr. as director of the company. Elected to replace him was Jose Ma. Francisco.

* * *

ALASKA Milk Corp. purchased 7,000 of its shares at P2.04 per share.

* * *

MULTITECH Investments Inc. has rescheduled its annual stockholders' meeting from Aug. 15 to Nov. 29.

Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research

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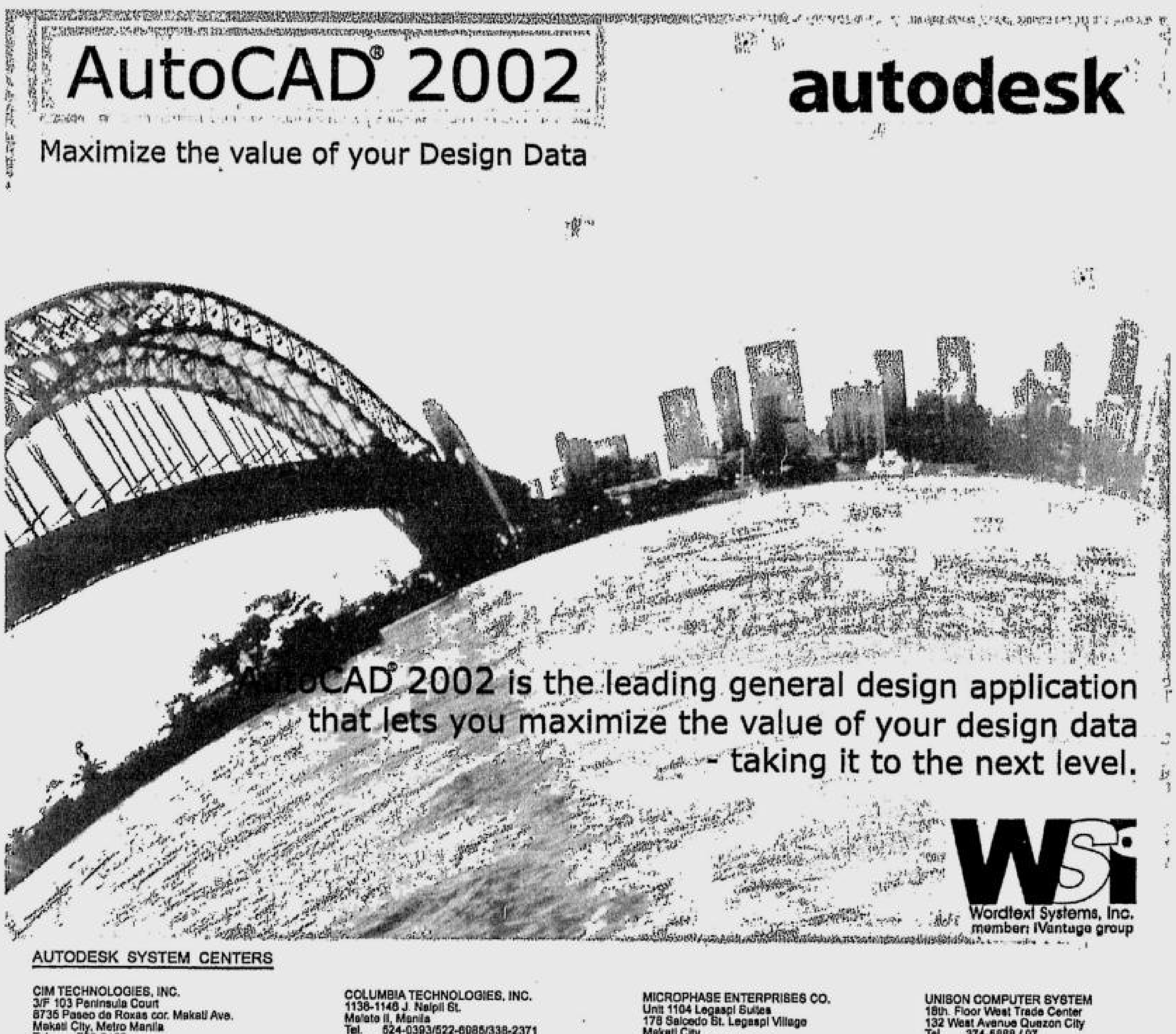

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Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	4.9	4.9	4.9	4.9	3,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	65	65	63.5	63.5	128,100
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	35	35	35	35	83,700
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	210	210	209	210	36,050
Philippine National Bank	47	47	46.5	47	589,000
Phil. Savings Bank	29.5	30	29.5	30	11,100
Union Bank of the Phil.	24.75	24.75	24.75	24.75	1,100
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Manulife Financial Corp.	1585	1585	1585	1585	1,150
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1290	1290	1290	1290	2,040
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp	38.5	38.5	38.5	38.5	5,000
Digital Telecom Phils Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.46	0.46	1,110,000
Easycall Phils. Inc.-Com	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	16,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	610	610	610	610	640,830
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.036	0.036	0.034	0.034	12,000,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	30,810,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3.9	3.9	3.65	3.9	18,000
Piltel	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	360,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	620	630	620	630	30,770
Ivantage Corp.	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	100,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.032	0.032	0.032	0.032	6,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	34	34	33.5	33.5	22,300
Manila Electric Co. B	39	40	38.5	39	1,375,600
Petron Corp.	1.84	1.88	1.84	1.88	1,188,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	170,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Asian Terminals Inc.	1.16	1.16	1.16	1.16	8,000
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.98	1.98	1.9	1.96	2,421,000
Negros Navigation Co. Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	250,000
William, Gothong & Aboitiz	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	6,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Engineering Equip. Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	310,000
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	50,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.18	1.18	1.18	1.18	660,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.04	2.08	2.02	2.02	24,565,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.6	5.7	5.5	5.6	4,062,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	13.5	13.5	13.5	13.5	62,600
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	27	27	27	27	27,400
RFM Corp.	2.38	2.38	2.32	2.32	3,233,000
San Miguel Corp. A	42.5	42.5	42.5	42.5	44,800
San Miguel Corp. B	56	56	55	55.5	149,500
Universal Robina Corp.	4.8	4.8	4.8	4.8	11,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
A. Soriano Corp.	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	20,000
Anglo Phil. Holdings Corp.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	700,000
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	1.14	1.18	1.12	1.12	2,854,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.009	0.009	0.009	0.009	135,000,000
Ayala Corp.	6	6.1	6	6.1	33,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.54	1.64	1.54	1.58	1,765,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs	0.2	0.21	0.2	0.21	330,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	1.74	1.76	1.72	1.72	1,297,000
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.22	0.26	0.22	0.225	3,660,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.135	0.135	0.135	0.135	200,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	200,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	28	28	27	27.5	250,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	30,000
Forum Pacific Inc.	0.26	0.29	0.26	0.29	590,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	20,000
Ipeople Inc.	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	70,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.98	1.98	1.96	1.96	579,000
Macroasia Corp.	1.38	1.38	1.38	1.38	10,000,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	450,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	350,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.23	0.24	0.23	0.24	510,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.94	0.94	0.94	0.94	50,000
Music Corp.	1.68	1.68	1.64	1.64	176,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.0875	0.0875	0.0875	0.0875	400,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	14	14	14	14	120,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.87	0.88	0.87	0.88	210,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.55	0.56	0.55	0.56	850,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.49	0.51	0.49	0.51	500,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.49	0.49	0.48	0.48	330,000
Manila Jockey Club	18	18	18	18	1,000
Philippine Racing Club	5.2	5.2	5.2	5.2	5,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	100,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	38	38	38	38	15,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.-Pref	9.8	9.8	9.8	9.8	2,000
Equitable PCI Bank-War	1.78	1.78	1.74	1.74	89,000
Macroasia Corp. Warrants	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	17,460,000
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0024	0.0024	0.0022	0.0022	91,000,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	300
Philweb.Com,Inc.-Warrants	0.015	0.016	0.015	0.016	33,100,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.85	4.85	4.8	4.85	1,354,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	40,000
Cityland Development Corp.	3	3	3	3	25,000
Cebu Holdings Inc.	0.38	0.39	0.38	0.39	130,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	230,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	3,440,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.92	1.92	1.88	1.9	645,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	30,000
City & Land Developers	2	2	2	2	23,000
MRC Allied Ind. Inc.	0.2	0.23	0.2	0.23	50,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2	2	2	2	1,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	6.3	6.3	6.1	6.1	232,000
SM Development Corp.	0.85	0.85	0.85	0.85	40,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc. A	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	23,000,000
Apex Mining Co. Inc. B	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	4,000,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	0.0044	2,000,000
Benguet Corp. A	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	150,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	2,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.048	0.048	0.041	0.048	43,100,000
Manila Mining Corp. B	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	20,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004	46,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	250,000
Polar Mines & Dev't Corp.	0.019	0.02	0.019	0.02	5,800,000
OIL					
Interport Res. B	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	2,000,000
Imperial Res.	0.019	0.019	0.019	0.019	3,000,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	400,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	855,240	51,222,475.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	393,023,200	623,938,050.00
PRO	6,240,000	10,503,310.00
Mining	144,302,000	2,688,900.00
OIL	5,400,000	139,000.00
GRAND TOTALS:	549,820,440	688,491,735.00

AVERAGES		
Banks & Fin Svc	543.71	DOWN 5.55
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,869.77	DOWN 15.07
PRO	499.55	DOWN 7.77
Mining	1,272.13	DOWN 5.29
OIL	1.77	UNCH 0.00
All Shares Index	809.46	DOWN 8.95
Composite	1,332.03	DOWN 1.02

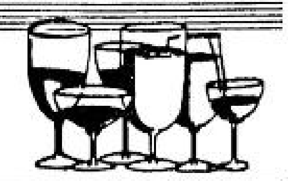
NO. OF ADVANCES: 18; NO. OF DECLINES: 43; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 44;
NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 105; NO. OF TRADES: 1,699

CURRENCIES

Aug. 7, 2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.133787	1.000000	53.2820
Japan	Yen	0.009156	0.008076	0.4303
United Kingdom	Pound	1.609977	1.420000	75.6604
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.145387	0.128231	6.8324
Switzerland	Franc	0.663422	0.585138	31.1773
Canada	Dollar	0.743272	0.655566	34.9299
Singapore	Dollar	0.636494	0.561388	29.9119
Australia	Dollar	0.585483	0.516396	27.5146
Bahrain	Dinar	3.007552	2.652661	141.3391
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.302327	0.266652	14.2078
Brunei	Dollar	0.636351	0.561262	29.9052
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000121	0.000107	0.0057
Thailand	Baht	0.024973	0.022026	1.1736
UAE	Dirham	0.308765	0.272331	14.5103
Korea	Won	0.000883	0.000779	0.0415
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.882000	46.9947
Germany	Mark	0.511291	0.450959	24.0280
France	Franc	0.152450	0.134460	7.1643
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.400234	21.3253
Austria	Schilling	0.072672	0.064097	3.4152
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.021864	1.1650
Italy	Lire	0.000517	0.000456	0.0243
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.148342	7.9040
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004399	0.2344
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005301	0.2824
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.021864	1.1650
Ireland	Punt	1.269738	1.119909	59.6710

Tony's travails



COCKTALES

By Victor C. Agustin

OUSTED Manila Polo Club president Antonio M. Garcia is back from an overseas trip, only to find himself no longer the beneficiary of the share that has entitled him continued membership in the exclusive circle.

During his three-week absence, his younger brother, Ramon ("Monchoy" to many), again wrote the Polo Club to press his long-standing claim that Tony had already sold the same share to one of Monchoy's companies all the way back in the 1980s.

Now Monchoy wants the share to be transferred in the name of his stockbroker son, Raymond.

Tony, whose business empire he had rebuilt has unraveled the way it once did in the 1980s, has written a three-page letter to Polo Club members giving his own version of his last month's untimely departure from the presidency.

While not disputing that he had used smoke-and-mirrors accounting to project a profit for the club instead of an estimated P25-million loss this year, Tony said this trick could not have escaped the present board, since the new president, Policarpio Ascalon, was the chair of the finance committee under Tony's watch.

"Since it became apparent that I was no longer beholden to the Ascalon/Yap group, sometime in May they asked director Charlie Rufino to tell me that unless I committed not to run in the August elections that I would be removed as president of the club," Tony said.

"This is blackmail but they gave me no choice," he said.

"They can say what they want to say but under my watch, the projected bottom line for fiscal year 2000/2001 is going to be P55 million as compared to last year's P35 million."

Birds of a feather

HAVE you ever wondered who the second man Equitable PCIBank's Clarissa Ocampo said was also present in the office of Erap lawyer Estelito Mendoza when the usual suspects attempted to alter the Jose Velarde trail away from Malacañang?

That second man, for the record, is none other than corporate lawyer Amado Santiago.

The name of low-profile Santiago cropped up because he is involved in an ongoing civil case filed by another group of Erap buddies still sitting in the board of the sequestered Philippine Communications Satellite Corp. and who are trying to take over a $2.7-million (over P140 million) deposit with Bank of Commerce.

Santiago serves as Philcomsat corporate secretary under Erap-appointees Carmelo "Butch" Africa Jr. and Honorio Poblador III, whose board still has physical control of the Philcomsat offices and sensitive documents in Telecom Plaza. (The building is secured by the Red Beret, an agency owned by a brother of Sen. Panfilo Lacson.)

The $2.7 million, incidentally, is part of the P900-million cash the Erap nominees want to get their hands on despite their patron now already in jail.

Not content with the court case, the Erap nominees even had the effrontery to send one board member to personally ask Bangko Sentral Governor Rafael Buenaventura to intercede and ask Bank of Commerce to release the money into their own account.

Buenaventura naturally refused.

And speaking of Philcomsat, there is a growing number of circumstantial evidence that the sequestered corporation should be the ground zero for any investigation into the controversial APC and PCCI telecom franchises linked to telecom supplier and Jose Velarde front man Jaime Dichaves.

Sen. Vicente Sotto, who captained the APC/PCCI balls in the Senate, might want to consider these set of circumstance before loudly protesting again:

- APC majority shareholder Pacifico Marcelo III was appointed by Joseph Estrada to the Philcomsat board along with Erap lawyer Edward Serapio to represent the government.
- Another APC director, Leah Ledesma, was an assistant vice president for marketing of a Philcomsat subsidiary.
- The main sponsor of the APC and PCCI bills in the House was Erap ally Rep. Augusto Baculio (2nd district, Misamis Oriental).

Baculio and his associate, Jude Erwin Alaba, served as counsel of another Philcomsat director, Lin Bildner.

Magallanes clarification

INCUMBENT Magallanes Village Association president Teresa Von Muhlfeld wrote to say that the homeowners' group had already filed its 1999 and 2000 financial statements with the Securities and Exchange Commission. An SEC inquiry had initially claimed that the past administrations of the homeowners' association had failed to file the required reportorial requirements from 1981 to 2000.

Heard through the grapevine

INSPIRED by the commercial success of the humongous air-conditioned tent at The Fort, taipan George Ty is building a similar tent on his reclaimed property by the bay. The proposed tent, adjacent to the Toyota showroom, should be ready in time for the Christmas rush of parties.

The original tent at The Fort is apparently cheaper to rent than a comparable-sized ballroom in a five-star hotel; free and unlimited parking also comes with the package. Guests therefore do not have to suffer the price-gouging parking fees that the Makati hotels now inflict on their customers.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

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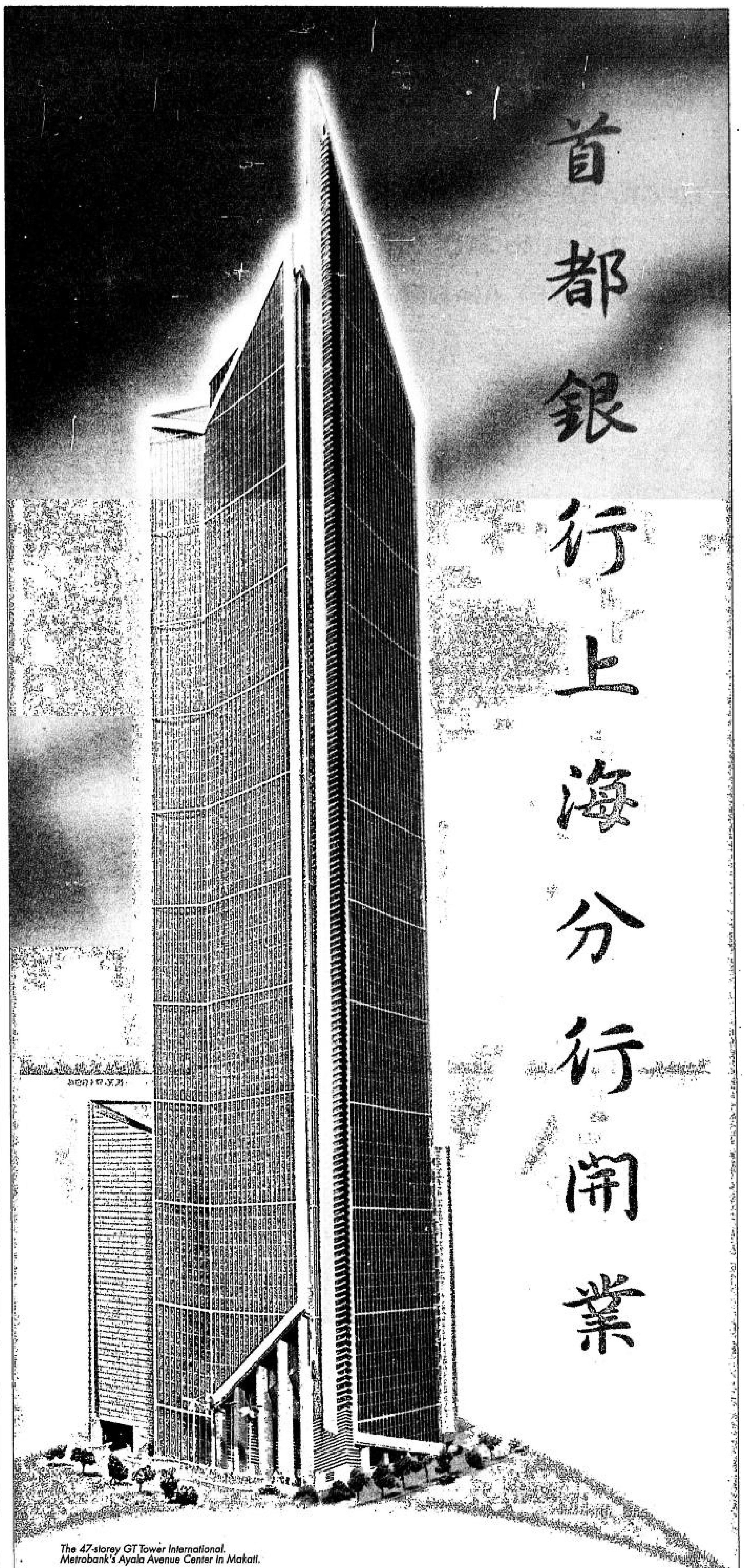

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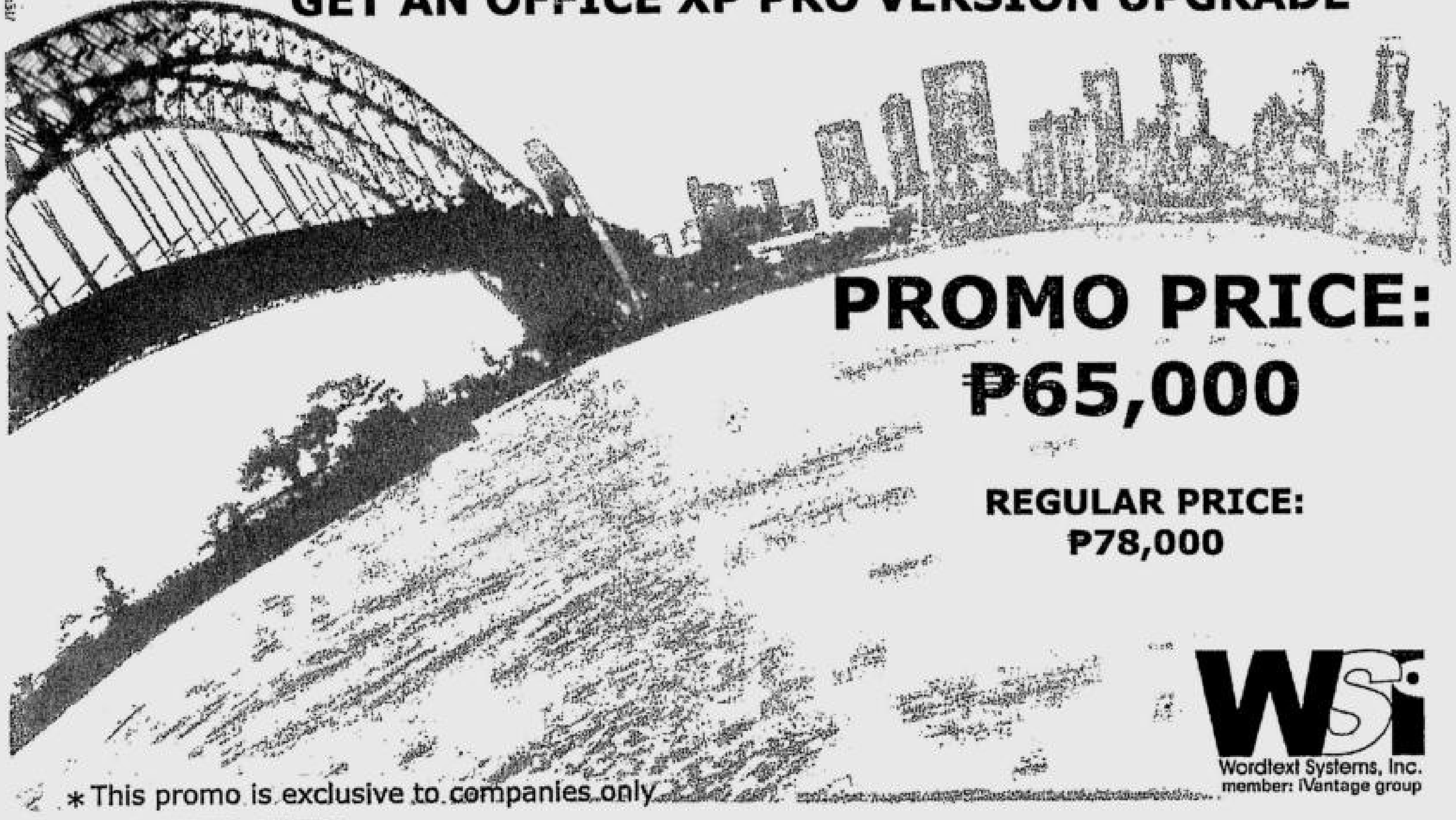

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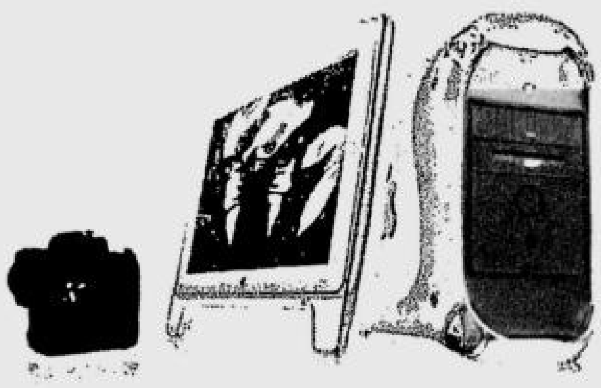

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4:20 Partner Showcase
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POSITIVE RATING

BCDA to issue bonds worth P2B

THE BASES Conversion Development Authority is planning to issue P2 billion worth of 5-year bonds with a fixed coupon rate to partly finance its priority projects, particularly the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway.

The bond will be offered primarily on a private placement basis to qualified investors. The Development Bank of the Philippines will be the lead underwriter.

This will be the first time that BCDA is raising long-term capital from private sources. The proposed bonds have been rated PRS "A" by the Philippine Ratings Services Corp., indicating that the bonds have favorable investment attributes and were considered upper-medium grade obligations. Factors giving security to principal and interest are considered adequate, PhilRatings said. "But elements may be present which suggest a susceptibility to impairment some time in the future," it added.

Although the bonds are exempt securities and are not subject to the registration requirements of the Revised Securities Act, BCDA had gone through the credit rating process in line with the government's thrust toward greater transparency, disclosure, and good governance. The move is also in preparation for other issuance that may be pursued over the long-term.

At present, BCDA is the only government agency that has obtained a credit rating.

In arriving at the rating, PhilRatings considered the following factors: BCDA's capability in developing, managing, and disposing vast land holdings; the value of present and prospective leases, joint venture agreements, land sales and potential concession income, as well as planned divestment of certain shareholdings; the company's healthy capitalization and expected moderate use of debt; substantial financial flexibility, enhanced by the company's access to low-cost and very long-term Official Development Assistance funds, and its management's skills in responding to negative external developments.

These factors, however, are balanced against the company's susceptibility to the cyclical property market, which is heavily influenced by uncertainties in the general economy, and potential claims from the national government for BCDA to share a greater portion of its income for other national purposes.

BCDA was created to convert military bases and camps into profitable commercial areas. At present, operations are focused on creating investment opportunities in Metro Manila and in Central and Northern Luzon.

Gov't rejects Ihap's Meralco sale proposal

By Clarissa S. Batino

THE SALE of the government's 10-percent stake in Manila Electric Co. is expected to hit a snag as the Department of Finance rejected the proposal of the Investment Houses Association of the Philippines, in partnership with ING Barings, to help handle the divestment.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said he had returned to Ihap and ING their proposal to sell the shares in warrants instead of offering Meralco shares corresponding to the 10-percent stake.

Despite the setback, Camacho said the government would still pursue the sale of the Meralco shares to help plug the projected P145-billion budget gap.

"We want to maximize our earnings from the sale of the Meralco shares as well as help perk up the stock market," said the finance chief. If the Ihap and ING would not fine-tune their proposal, the DOF will start entertaining other offers.

Camacho had asked Ihap's assistance in designing a divestment scheme for the Meralco shares.

Other groups that submitted proposals to handle the sale of the Meralco shares were Lehman Bros., Salomon Smith Barney, Deutsche Bank, ABN Amro and Credit Suisse First Boston.

Camacho said the government has lowered its projected proceeds from the sale of the Meralco shares to P4 billion, from an earlier target of P5 billion to P7 billion.

The government had thought that the enactment of the power reform law would boost the price of Meralco shares. However, the slump in the stock market and Meralco's inability to raise its rates forced the government to scale down its projection.

Two years ago, the government's shares in Meralco were worth about P9 billion. Today, the same shares were estimated to be worth only a little over P4 billion.

Of the government's stake in Meralco, about 16.7-million shares are held by the Office of the President, 3-million shares by the Republic of the Philippines, and 45-million shares by the Asset Trust Privatization.

Meralco is the country's largest electricity distributor serving 3.1 million customers in Metro Manila and neighboring provinces. It is owned largely by the Lopez family through subsidiaries such as First Philippine Holdings Corp., Benpres Holdings and the Lopez Foundation.

Spanish firm Union Fenosa Acex owns about 10 percent of the company. The charter of Meralco provided that only the Lopez family could own more than 10 percent in Meralco.

Gov't to address 'perception' issues

THE MACAPAGAL administration has reassured Japanese businessmen that its primary concern was to make sure that foreign companies already operating in the Philippines would stay put despite the adverse political and economic conditions.

Trade Secretary Manuel "Mar" Roxas II said President Macapagal-Arroyo was determined to address "perception issues" that tended to affect investor confidence in the country in recent months through genuine and concrete programs and initiatives.

Roxas was responding to a warning aired by Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Philippines president Shoichi Kameyama that Japanese businessmen were moving to Vietnam, China and Thailand because the country had lost its competitive edge.

Kameyama said that unless the government resolves the problems of peace and order, infrastructure and labor unrest, even Japanese investors here would relocate to other countries that are producing the same quality, if not better, goods as the Philippines but at substantially lower costs.

Roxas said that while the government has stepped up efforts to attract more foreign investments, "this is only second to our commitment to address the concerns and extend assistance to foreign companies already based in the Philippines."

Top Cabinet officials joined the mid-year dialogue and consultations organized by the Japan chamber, which had previously concluded a survey which listed the investment impediments confronting Japanese operations in the Philippines.

The Cabinet officials took turns presenting their achievements as well as their plans in addressing the issues in their respective areas.

G. Cosmos asks SEC to lift closure order

By Elena R. Torrijos

G. COSMOS Philippines Inc. has asked the Securities and Exchange Commission to lift an order that has prevented it from promoting the "salvation" of the world through mail-order products sold in Japan.

In a motion filed with the SEC, G. Cosmos argued that the business it offered to the public did not fall within the definition of an investment contract under the Securities Regulation Code.

The company told the commission's counsel, Alfredo Nasser, it could prove that its business was not fraudulent and would not cause grave or irreparable injury or prejudice to the investing public.

"Except for the complaint of two investors whose money has already been paid back and returned, no allegation or fraud or deceit has been averred to have occurred. It must be emphasized that G. Cosmos is a legitimate company operating with an agenda based on transparency and openness," the company said.

The SEC earlier shut G. Cosmos down for allegedly violating the country's securities laws, particularly, provisions that prohibited the sale of unregistered securities.

G. Cosmos promotes the "salvation" of the world through a supposed high-yielding instrument based on an aggressive marketing campaign of mail-order products sold in Japan.

Based on complaints filed by two investors, G. Cosmos failed to deliver on its promise that its investors would receive as much as P30,000 to P50,000 a month.

The SEC also said it was investigating reports that G. Cosmos chair Genta Ogami had a criminal record in Japan.

STATE STREET GLOBAL CHIEF'S VISIT

Former Development Bank of the Philippines Chair Ernest Leung (center) is flanked by (from left) Boulevard Holdings chair Jose Marcel Panlilio, State Street Global Advisors president Timothy Harbert, Ernesto & Young's Joe Araullo and Luis Sison of Portfolio Investments after a recent briefing at the Peninsula Hotel. State Street Global is the second largest investment fund in the US. Harbert visited the country recently to explore investment opportunities here.

Nextel accused of illegally operating cell phone network

By Abigail L. Ho

APART from questions about its ownership, Nextel Communications Philippines Inc. is also facing charges that it is operating an illegal mobile phone network.

In an interview, Leyte Rep. Aniceto Saludo Jr. told the INQUIRER he would file this month a resolution asking Congress to investigate charges that Nextel was operating a cellular mobile cellular telephone system without a franchise from the government.

He earlier accused Nextel of exceeding the 40-percent foreign ownership limit set by the Constitution for public utilities.

In a letter to National Telecommunications Commission chief Eliseo Rio, Saludo said Nextel "has no franchise for mobile telephone services, which it now provides. The provisional authority granted in its favor limits its services only to trunked radio."

Nextel, however, said it was not violating its license.

"The NTC has recognized the legitimacy of our operations. They should be the first one to know if we're operating CMTS illegally," Nextel president Emilio Festejo told the INQUIRER.

He said Nextel was just taking advantage of the technology that was available to the company, but its core business was still digital radio.

"We take advantage of the fact that our technology is not the same with other analog radio operators. Our PA allows us to provide wireless service and mobile trunk radio technology through iDEN (Integrated Digital Enhanced Network) technology," Festejo added.

He said Nextel was selling two-way radio units that, as a value-added service, could be used as cellular phones and pagers.

"Nextel's value-added service of two-way paging, for me, is like the two-way messaging provided by CMTS operators," according to Saludo.

NTC Director Edgardo Cabarios said what was being questioned with regard to Nextel's offering CMTS-like services was the fact that CMTS operators had to fulfill a landline obligation.

To get a CMTS license, a carrier must roll out 400,000 landlines.

Nextel, being a trunk radio service provider, does not have this obligation.

Another charge that Nextel will have to face is its alleged illegal operation of an international gateway facility.

Smart Communications Inc. has raised this issue before the NTC. Three other carriers—Globe Telecom Inc., Bell Telecommunication Philippines Inc. and Bayan Telecommunications Inc.—may also question Nextel's license.

"We're coursing our traffic through a licensed IGF operator. Capwire (Capitol Wireless Inc.) is our IGF partner. We became a 'reseller' of Capwire, much like Piltel is a 'reseller' of Smart," Festejo said in reaction to Smart's complaint.

GOINGS-ON

Tofil Awards deadline set

NOMINATIONS for this year's search for The Outstanding Filipino must be submitted on or before Aug. 31, the Philippine Jaycee Senate (PJS) and the Insular Life Assurance Co. Ltd. said.

On its 14th year, the Tofil Awards continues to give recognition to Filipino men and women, 41 years old and above, who have made significant contributions to the advancement of their calling, public welfare and national development.

Nominations may be made by any individual or organization on the prescribed Tofil nomination forms, which are available at all PJS chapter offices and Insular Life offices nationwide. Forms may also be downloaded from the PJS website at www.philjcsenate.com. Accomplished nomination forms and all supporting documents must be submitted to PJS, 3/F Jaycee Building, 14 Don Alejandro Roces Ave., Quezon City.

JRS opens new branch

JRS Express, the country's leading courier service, recently inaugurated a bigger and better outlet. The new branch is located at the Regina Bldg., along Escolta, Manila, where the company started 41 years ago. The growing number of JRS clients in its vicinity prompted the expansion.

Voted by the Consumer Union of the Philippines (CUP) as the Most Outstanding Messengerial Service Company for five consecutive years now, JRS bagged the Hall of Fame Award this year.

JRS Express treasurer and VP-Branches Milady J. Muñoz led the formal opening of the branch.

Microsoft's certified partner

INFORSERVE International Inc., worldwide developer and marketer of Megabanker, was recognized by Microsoft Corp. as one of the five worldwide finalists in the fourth annual Microsoft Certified Partner Awards in the "Packaged Application of the Year" category representing the Asia/South Pacific Region. Nearly 800 entries were considered for this award in 12 different categories.

Infoserve International was selected because of its innovative use of Microsoft's latest technologies which offer clear benefits to customers. "It was an honor for us to receive so many amazing business applications of our products," said Ian Rogoff, vice president, Worldwide Partner Group at Microsoft, "but Infoserve International clearly stood out among the many high-quality entries we received."

Award finalists were honored at Microsoft's Fusion 2001 partner event in Anaheim, California July 13-16.

CONTRACT MANUFACTURING

Acer spin-off to create more business in Subic

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

ACER Inc. has tapped its Philippine subsidiary at the Subic Freeport Zone to be the centerpiece of the Taiwan computer giant's plan to spin off its contract manufacturing operations under a new firm, Wistron Corp.

Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority Chair Felicito C. Payumo said Acer chose its Philippine concern as the site for its restructuring project because of the Subic factory's track record of producing high quality output on time.

Acer Information Products (Philippines) Inc. has been renamed Wistron Infocomm (Philippines) Corp. and it would now focus on design manufacturing services operation.

Last month, Acer shareholders voted to split off the Taiwan's contract manufacturing operations which management hoped to complete by yearend.

Acer's restructuring was meant to avoid potential conflict between Acer's original equipment manufacturing (OEM) operations for popular computer brands IBM and Hitachi with Acer's products and business. Also, the move was meant to spur Acer's bid to gain market share in the fast growing information and communication technology business.

Payumo was optimistic that the restructuring program would create new investment opportunities and additional investments in Subic.

Acer's Subic plant currently has 2,300 employees and it has produced 10 million motherboards and 1 million notebook computers since it started operations in 1995. Acer (Subic) posted $780 million in revenues last year or 2.8 percent of the country's total export earnings last year.

The Board of Investments has granted Acer pioneer incentives for the assembly of desktop computers in its $120-million Subic production facility, Acer's biggest outside Taiwan.

Acer expects to produce 150,000 units a year of the Acer Veriton FP2 at an average retail price of $804 per unit. Acer has earmarked 90 percent of its output for export to Europe, United States and Asia. The expansion of the Subic operations to desktop computers will cost Acer P30 million and will create 102 new jobs.

Acer had stepped up its operations in Subic to meet supply contracts worth $1.2 billion with American computer giant IBM Corp. and Hitachi Corp. of Japan.

Payumo said these contracts were expected to start next month. The IBM and Hitachi contracts are much bigger than what Acer and other locators of Subic have exported last year. SBMA reported that exports hit $1.18 billion last year and it expects exports to grow 30 percent to $1.54 billion.

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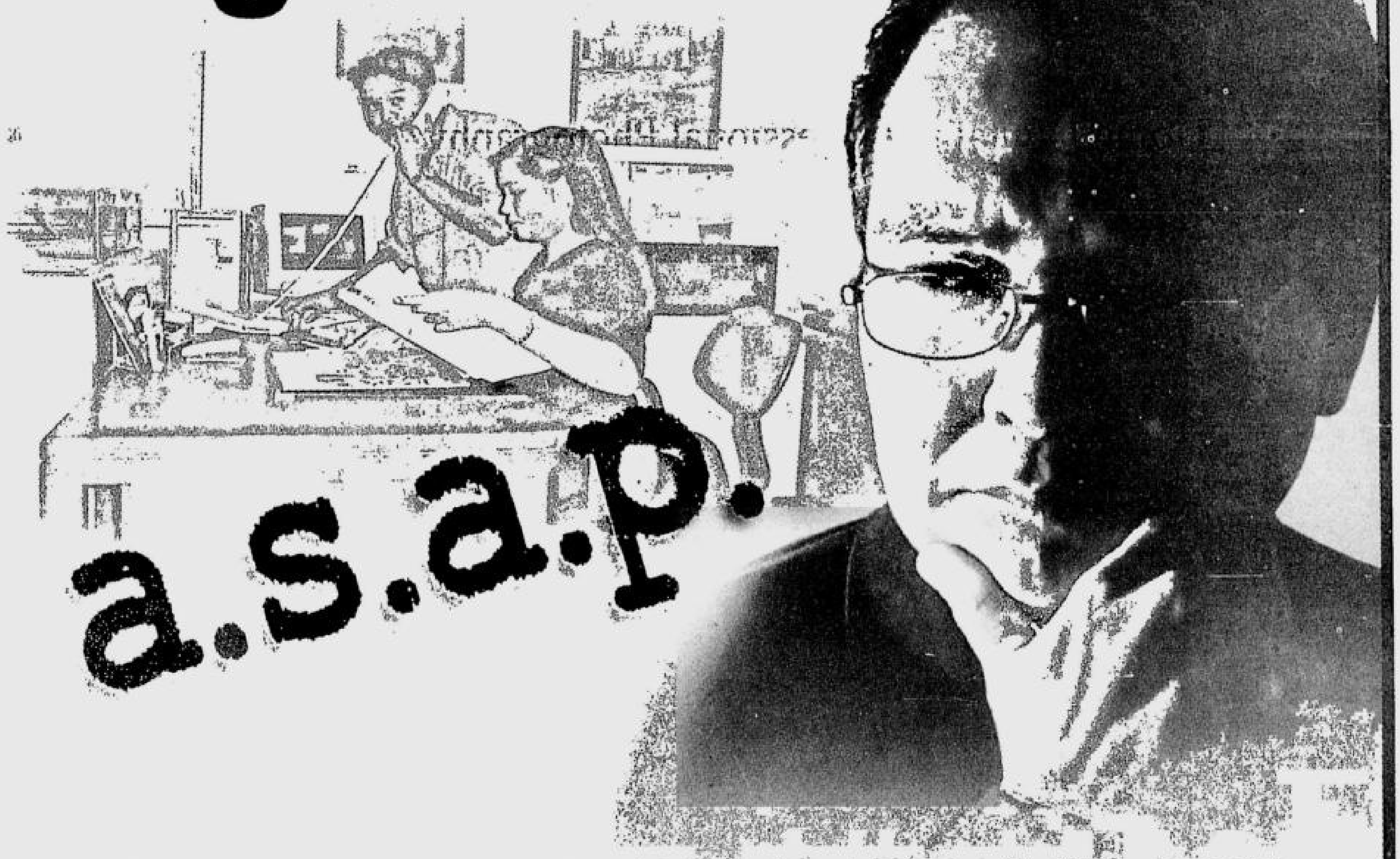

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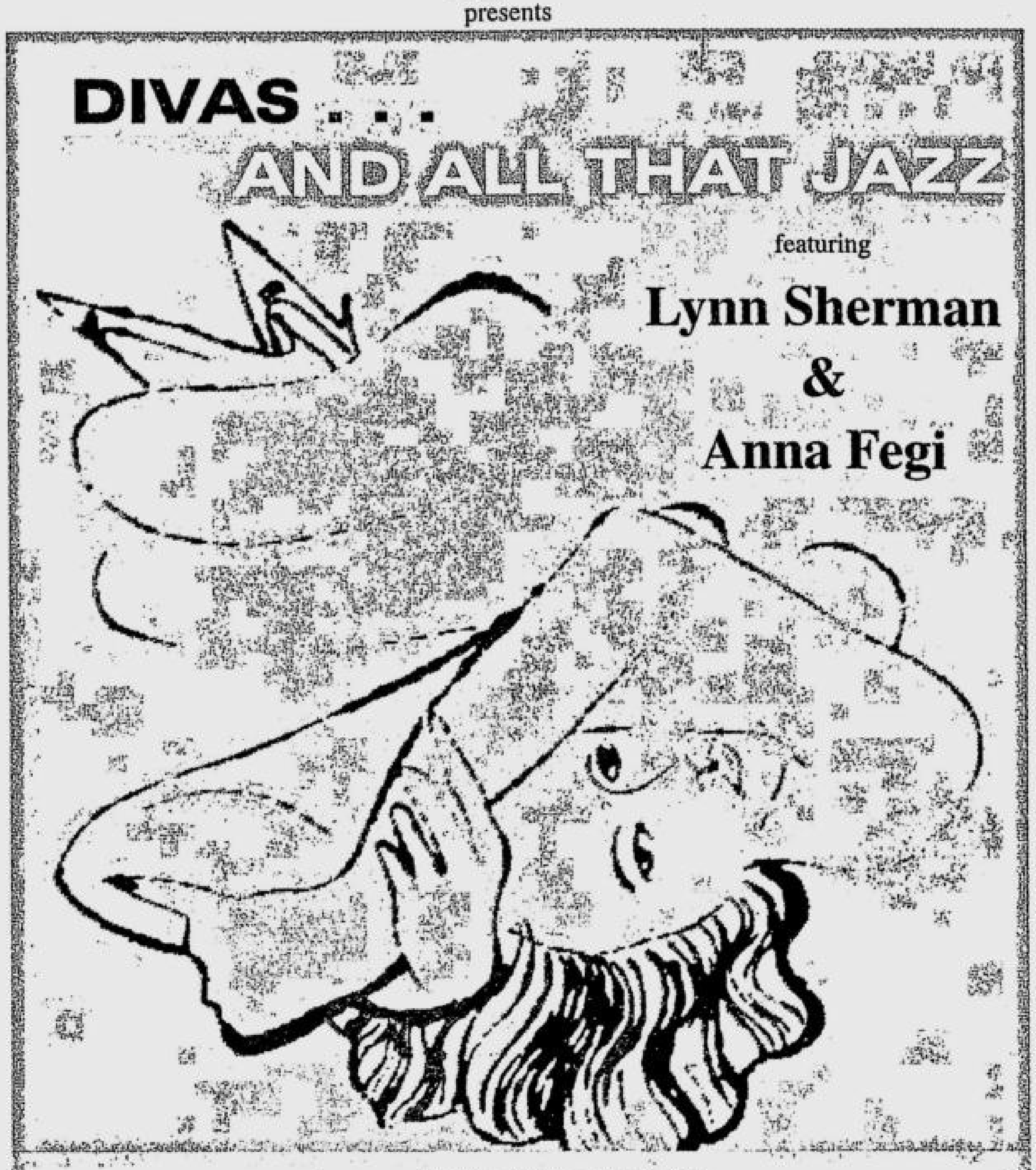

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A TOURIST selects a pirated video compact disc at a store in Kuala Lumpur. Malaysia will no longer allow VCDs to be sold in open markets as part of a crackdown on pirated and pornographic movies. AP

US group presses Asean to liberalize

KUALA LUMPUR—A leading US business lobby urged southeast Asian countries on Tuesday to stick to regional liberalization plans or risk seeing the further flight of foreign direct investment to northern neighbor China.

"We believe that unless Malaysia leads and Asean implements the Afta, we're afraid that there will be a continuation of foreign direct investment flows going to China rather than coming to Southeast Asia," Ernest Bower, president of the US-Asean Business Council, told a news conference.

Bower spoke after a meeting between Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad and a group of US executives, whose firms invest and operate in the 10-country Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei, Indonesia, the Philippines and Singapore have an Asean Free Trade Area agreement to slash import tariffs on a range of products to a maximum 5 percent by the end of 2002.

Bower said in most sectors, there had been a reverse in the situation of the early 1990s when more than 70 percent of East Asia's foreign direct investments went to Southeast Asian countries and less than 30 percent to China.

"Today, China receives over 70 percent and Southeast Asia receives less than 30 percent," he added.

Lionel Lim, managing director of Asia South for Sun Microsystems Inc., said Asean risked irrelevance if it failed to revitalize what he said was not a very compelling story.

"Individually, these countries aren't very exciting, but, collectively, a half-a-billion-people market is exciting," he told the same news conference.

Washington and Kuala Lumpur are at odds on several issues, though the United States is the biggest investor in Malaysia and its largest trading partner.

Malaysia belongs to a group of developing nations complaining richer states have weighted the agenda for a new round of World Trade Organization talks in their favor. *Reuters*

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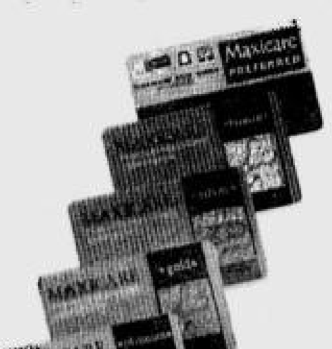

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PC's next 20 years: Smaller and smarter

ERIKO Ikeda of Hitachi Ltd. displays in Tokyo a wearable personal computer. The Japanese electronics maker plans to put it on the Japanese market by the end of this year in a partnership with US wearable computer maker Xybernaut Corp. AP

NEW YORK—In the 20 years since IBM Corp. introduced its personal computer, the machines have evolved from a clunky beige box with a bulky monitor to a clunky beige box with an even bulkier monitor.

Gains in technology have primarily come in computing power and networking, not in appearance.

Over the next 20 years, that will change.

"The PC, as we currently view it, is toast," said Rob Enderle, a business analyst with Giga Information Group. "The thing you call your computer will be separated into many components."

The desktop PC will morph into Internet-access devices with shapes and sizes that cater to individual preferences.

They'll be flung about the home or office, carried in a backpack or shirt pocket, worn around the wrist or neck. The machines will keep getting faster, smaller and smarter.

By the 40th anniversary of the PC—on Aug. 12, 2021—computers might be as smart as people.

"Ultimately they'll become so small, you won't need the physical object at all," said Ray Kurzweil, the futurist author and inventor. "It's going to be embedded in our environment."

The PC's upcoming metamorphosis employs equal parts mobility, speed and network synchronization.

Already, office workers are trading desktop PCs for laptops. In turn, laptops are flattening into stylus-operated tablet PCs that can handle different jobs. Fujitsu and Sony already sell tablet PCs, and Microsoft Corp. touts forthcoming tablet software.

And, as cell phones and handheld computers grow stronger and smaller, they'll assume many of the tasks associated with the PC.

Soon, office computers might shrink into a brick-sized box that sits on the floor.

Or a computer's guts could sit inside a portable module the size of a pack of cigarettes. The module, with a person's files and software, could slide into any number of docking stations: a handheld personal digital assistant, a laptop, or a computer screen embedded in an airline seat or coffee shop table.

Further down, components will be small enough to fit into jewelry or stitched into clothing. Perhaps the display will be written on our retinas. Already, cell phones in Japan are tiny enough to wear on a necklace.

"We won't continue to carry around a laptop, phone, Walkman, MP3 player or Palm Pilot," said Michel Mayer, IBM's manager of pervasive computing.

Perhaps more importantly, computing networks will enhance capabilities of other machines: cars, gas pumps, dishwashers, doorknobs or maps. Computing will become a utility—like electricity or running water—that gets noticed only when it fails. *AP*

India's IT runs out of steam

NEW DELHI- Rakesh Kumar, an Indian college graduate, thought he was well on course for a high-rolling job with a fat salary when he enrolled for a three-year intensive course at a prestigious information technology institute.

But as he nears completion of the course, he and thousands like him are facing a depressed job market with an even bleaker future.

"Everyday, we are reading these horror stories of how Indian IT professionals are being sacked in firms abroad, as well as here. We are not sure what lies ahead," Kumar said.

Such sentiment has affected computer education firms, including top notch outfits like NIIT and Aptech, which have been on a roll meeting the once insatiable demand for Indian IT professionals.

A slowing US economy and the bursting of the global dotcom bubble has seen hundreds of smaller institutes close down, with student registrations falling by more than 50 percent.

The net profit of NIIT, a software major and India's leading IT training firm, fell to 52.9 million rupees ($1.15 million) in the quarter ending June 2001, compared to 809.2 million rupees for the same period last year. *AFP*

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467 LA 500 FA W/Pool VVI P16M • 0917-4149898

Nice Valle Verde 1 H&L 4BR w/Pool Rushl 635-6722

Capitolyo Pasig 631-3496

QUEZON CITY

SFDM QC L624 Whse 2Sty W/ Hse Tel. #928-1469

D Tuazon SMH Q.C L411m² 2sty D-Buyer Call 928-1469

Apo St. SMH L280 VLOt Tel. #928-1469

SFDM QC L624m² wHse 2sty wHse Tel. #928-1469

BAESA Q.C. LA932sqm 4-Ind • Tel. 928-1469

Baler QC L2000m² Call 928-1469

Baler St. QC L3000 Whse Call 928-1469

D. Tuazon SMH QC 411m² 2Stry 928-1469

Cheap Sikatuna464m² 7.0M Teachers Vill 600m² good for school/office 4BR 11M Call Mrs Camacho 9215479

Congressional Ave Q.C Comm'l Lot L471m² Call 928-1469

Del Monte L1800M VL071 Tel 928-1469

Fairview QC L1000M VLot Tel 928-1469

GrenMedow P28M 658-2410

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•Loyola Grand Villas• 4BR 8M NEG. 435-2346

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS 2sty 5BR 6T&B 650m² 929-1832 • 426-5650

Mindanao Ave Comm'l Lot L800M² DBuyer Call 928-1469

New MLA Q.C L3082m² P20M D Call 928-1469

Rolling Hill New Mla L258 2STY 4Br 2Car Tel 928-1469

SANTOL 420m² w/5DR Apt P6.5M 410-8189 Wilson

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SAN JUAN

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Greenhills West With Business Fronting Xavier High School 2Storey Concrete House 6BR / 7TB w/Maids Rm Driver Rm. 4CG • 721-9376

PROVINCIAL

BACOOR NR SM H&L 2STY 6BR w/GRMNTS FACT 180m² 09192386273

PACITA1 Res/Com 8957988

Tagatay L249M² 2Sty 3Br, 3Tb Ice Tel 928-1469

Tagatay L286M² 2Sty 3Br, 3Tb Ice Tel 928-1469

Tagaytay Candonwood Club Shares Call 928-1469

Tagaytay L286m² 2sty 3BR 3TB 1Car Call 928-1469

OTHER AREAS

RUSHICanyonWoods Btngas 7.5M 0917-8143792

LOT

MUNTINLUPA

Rush! Susana Heights 525sqm P6500 726-8103 M-F

PARANAQUE

Merville South Admiral Rushl 460sqm 726-8103 M-F

Marcelo 357m²@8T 9338848

QUEZON CITY

Marcos H-way Comm'l Lot L317 VLot Tel. #928-1469

Capitol Homes lot 525m² Jun 6453139 09194180484

Del Monte L1800m² V-Lot Call 928-1469

Fairview Q.C L1000m² V-Lot Call 928-1469

LGV lot 600-1200 Rush Jun 6453139 09194180484

RIZAL

Taytay Rizal 5Yrs. 2Pay P3200/mo. 58-100m² 658-2410

SAN JUAN

GreenHills 40T/m² 658-2410

PROVINCIAL

Comm'l/Ind'l LOT Nr. Ford Motor Call 633-7601-03

Dasarinas Cavite 2774m² 4Whse Tel 928-1469

★SUBIC 80+has.★ 047-9134120 09175406292

Malinta Bulacan 7049V Lot Alg Hway Tel 928-1469

MARILAO Primelot 2940115

Nice Lot Nr. New St. Scho. In Sta. Rosa Laguna 6337601/03

Proj.4 11T/m² Neg. 645-3731

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

PROVINCIAL

Tagaytay w/View 5,802m² 2T /SQM or Best Offer • 6337601-03

Tanza Cavite Lot 1.5Hect Comm'l Lot 1T/m² Tel 928-1469

OTHER AREAS

Batangas City 09178194131 18ha along hiway P300/m²

VARIOUS AREAS

Valenzuela McArthur Hi-way 7000sqm 726-8103 M-F

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

ALABANG

16 Flr. Office Unit 4 Sale Richville Tower Alabang w/ Rent income T-7898157

MANILA

10 MINS. FRM AYALA BNewThse Zobel Roxas Mkti 4sty/3BR/3TB/grge P3.05M up 8903461 loc 34

MANDALUYONG

Shaw Blvd 09178398865

ShawTower P1.37M BigStdio Nr ShangrLa/Mega T5329551

PASIG

235 FA 3BR Renaissance 3 Cor. Unit Raquel 634-1212

Alexandra Pasig 250m² 3BR Mds P12M 658-2410

Pacific Place 2BR 101m² W/Parking P4M 633-7601/03

Phonenix Condo 3BR 135m² P5.2M 412-1825 • 0917-7914366

Pioneer Hi-Lands 3BR 6M 915-5177 • 0917-5325440

Renaissance 2000 1BR W/ Pkng 915-5177

RUSHI Renaissance 2000 DBO 2br+2tb 09178143792

QUEZON CITY

32SQ Merchant Square P1M Tel. 0917-4149898

63SQ 1BR P. Tuazon St. P1.2 Tel. 0917-4149898

Congressional RD 3BR FA350 7.5M 915-5177

CUBAO Condo P1.3"EZ"term 9126976/9132224/4381161

El Jardin Studios Bnew 2M W/ Pkng Call 915-5177

RUSHI TSora 3BR+1md 2TB P2.5M DBO 0917-8143792

PROVINCIAL

HOLIDAY HLS SN PDRO LGN 1065M² 3,200/M² 5273775

OTHER AREAS

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near SM Bacoor
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WESTVILLE HOMES
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P 15,000

VILLA FELIZA HOMES
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REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

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3br up/dwn tel8952412 w/grge

MANILA

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QUEZON CITY

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Studio Type Tel 3731894

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SAN JUAN

Up/dwn 2BR 2TB w/grge 920-6694/925-1348/49

HOUSE

QUEZON CITY

120 Labo St. La Loma 2BR

GrenMedow 55T/mo. 658-2410

Loyola Xavier Ville 3BR Call915-5177

MONTE VISTA NEW 360m² nr Ateneo 2br 20T 2420922

SCT AREA 5BR 35T NEG NEW NR TIMOG 2420922

PROVINCIAL

BRENTVILLE next 2 Brent Int'l Schl 2BR 3TB P5M Maid's Rm Powder Rm 0495126888 0919-3753965

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

KWOOD Mktl 3BR3TB maid qr pkg 20T 6996632 Irene

Or Sale 1Bdrm FF BSA Makati 25Th Rent 0917-5382463

MANILA

Malate 1BDRM 09178398865

MANDALUYONG

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REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

FOR LEASE

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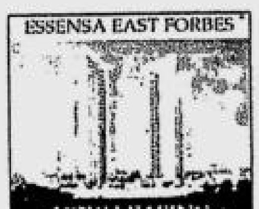

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Marketing AssociateM/F 26yo-up w/orw/exp. P15-20K Norman 8388655 09163189644

•Ofc staff 9134470 April

•Ofc Staff•9168033 Arlene

•OFFICE STAFF• M/F 18-45 col grad/level Direct Hiring 9134470 Nicol

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is given that the estate of late MARISSA G. GORROSPE was extrajudicially settled by an affidavit of self adjudication w/absolute sale as per Doc.1103 Page23 BookXCIV Series 2001 before Notary Public Atty. Avelino C. Gorrospe, San Fernando, Pampanga [PDI-August 1,8&15,2001]

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that the Philam Bond Fund Stock Certificate No. 0064 for 18,833 shares under the name of Ma. Virginia B. Salcedo is missing. If no contest received, new certificate will be issued. (PDI-August 1, 8 & 15, 2001)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late JASMIN ISIP with waiver of share executed on Aug. 6, 2001 acknowledged before Atty. Francisco Malate Notary Public in the city of Paranaque Doc.#289, Page #58, Book #6 Series of 2001 PDI-Aug 8, 15 & 22, 2001

PERSONAL

Happy B-Day, Ricky! I Love You Very Much Don't Change - Bogs

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS
May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen.
Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, Pray for us.
Say nine times a day for nine days. Prayer will be answered by the eighth day, it has never failed.

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(A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY)

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1227 Makati City, Philippines
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Telefax No. (02) 810-8418

Brgy. Batangas Dos
Mariveles, Bataan
Te No. (047) 244-7441
Telefax No. (047) 244-5883

INVITATION FOR QUALIFICATION / ELIGIBILITY AND BIDDING

The PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation (PPDC) invites interested contractors currently accredited with the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) in good standing to apply for qualification / eligibility and if subsequently found eligible, to bid for the following project described below:

I.	Work Order No.	WSC-00-013R1
II.	Project Title	Construction of Tank 300 Facilities & Additional Fire Water Distribution System
III.	Scope of Work	Construction of Tank 300, Additional Fire Water System, Concrete Reservoir and Accessories, Storm Drainage System, Perimeter Fencing including Pedestrian and Vehicular Gates and Parking Area.
IV.	Project Location	Petrochemical Industrial Estate (PIE) in Limay and Mariveles Bataan, Philippines
V.	Approved Budget	Pesos Ten Million Four Hundred One Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Two and 61/100 (P 10,401,822.61)
VI.	Source of Funding	PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation
VII.	Estimated Contract Duration	One Hundred Five (105) Calendar Days
VIII.	PCAB License Minimum Requirement	
	Classification	Medium A
	Category	Water Supply and/or Mechanical Work
IX.	Similar Contracts	Construction of Dams, Reservoir, Irrigation, Flood Control, Tunneling and other Water Supply Facilities
X.	Credit Line / Cash Deposit	Pesos One Million Forty Thousand One Hundred Eighty Two & 26/100
	Certificate Requirement	(P1,040,182.26)
XI.	Eligibility Statement Forms	One (1) set each to be filled up and submitted for every project
	Cost of Forms	One Hundred Pesos each set (P100.00/set)
	Date and Time of Issuance	August 6-17, 2001 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
	Place of Issuance and Submission of Accomplished Eligibility Statements / Documents	PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation 11th Floor, B.A. Lepanto Building, 8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City c/o Legal, Contracts Administration Department or PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation Petrochem Park, Batangas Dos, Mariveles, Bataan c/o Site Administration Department
	Deadline of Submission	On or before August 23, 2001 at 3:00 p.m.
XII.	Notice of Eligibility/Ineligibility Date and Time of Issuance	August 13 - September 10, 2001 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
	Place of Issuance	PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation 11th Floor, B.A. Lepanto Building, 8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City c/o Legal, Contracts and Administration Department
XIII.	Pre-bid Conference	
	Date and Time	October 2, 2001 at 9:30 a.m.
	Venue	PPDC Conference Room PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation Petrochem Park, Batangas Dos, Mariveles, Bataan c/o Site Administration Department
XIV.	Bid/Tender Documents	Shall be issued only to eligible contractors upon payment of the non-refundable cost of the documents.
	Cost of Documents	One Thousand Pesos each set (P1,000.00/set)
	Date and Time of Issuance	September 10-24, 2001 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
	Place of Issuance	PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation 11th Floor, B.A. Lepanto Building, 8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City c/o Legal, Contracts and Administration Department or PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation Petrochem Park, Batangas Dos, Mariveles, Bataan c/o Site Administration Department
	Deadline of Submission	On or before October 23, 2001 at 9:30 a.m.
	Place of Submission	PNOC-Petrochemical Development Corporation 11th Floor, B.A. Lepanto Building, 8747 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City c/o Legal, Contracts and Administration Department

XV. BID OPENING IN THE SAME VENUE WILL FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION OF BIDS. LATE BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Prospective bidders are required to submit original copy of Credit Line / Cash Deposit Certificate/s and original copies of pertinent documents such as Contractor's PCAB License, audited Financial Statements, etc. for verification/ authentication purposes.

All particulars relative to pre-qualification / eligibility, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of PD 1594 and its Implementing Rules and Relations, as amended, and other applicable rules and regulations.

PPDC reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or parts thereof, to waive any defect or informality therein, or accept such bid or award any part thereof to any bidder/s whose bid/s is/are considered most advantageous to PPDC. PPDC further assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may incur in the preparation of their bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **VICTORIO MARIO A. DIMAGIBA**
BAC-Chairman

(PDI – Aug. 2, 8 & 13, 2001)

PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE
AIR LOGISTICS AND SUPPORT COMMAND
AIR FORCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Fernando Air Base, Lipa City

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The AFRDC invites all interested dealers/suppliers to pre-qualify and to bid for the supply and materials for the fabrication of Ten (10) units Aircraft Battery Cart.

Deadline for the submission to PBAC of Letter of Intent, DTI Registration Certificate, Business Name, Latest Audited Financial Statement and **Pre-Bid Conference is on 16 Aug 2001, 9:00 AM at the AFRDC Conference Room, Fernando Air Base, Lipa City.**

Failure to submit all the PBAC requirements before the Pre-bid conference and the personal attendance of prospective suppliers/ dealers and/or their duly authorized representative to the Pre-bid Conference shall disqualify any bidder to participate. **Dropping and Opening of Bids is on 23 Aug 2001, 9:00 AM.**

Sealed bids must be in duplicate and accompanied by Bidder's Bond equivalent to 10% of the bid, but not to exceed P20,000.00 in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check or Surety Bond from AFPGIC.

The AFRDC PBAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids or waived any defect or informality of the bids received and accepts the bids most advantageous to the government and does not guarantee that an award will be made. The decision of the PBAC on such matters shall be final and binding.

For further information, please contact the PBAC at telephone nos. (043) 575-0600 or (043) 575-0633.

(Sgd.) **ARTEMIO D. GABRIEL**
Lt. Colonel PAF
Chairman, PBAC

(PDI – July 31, Aug. 4 & 8, 2001)

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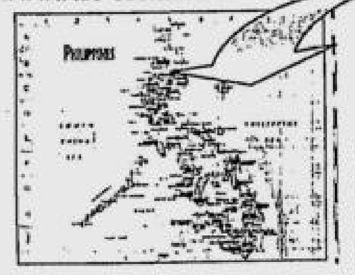

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Imelda Sarmiento (075) 515-6755
CP# 0919-6649784
Emily Soriano (075) 515-4066
43 Perez Blvd., Dagupan City
CP # 0917-3654775

◈ ***RISE BIÑAN, LAGUNA***
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Brgy. Tubigan Biñan, Laguna
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PARTIES INTERESTED TO BECOME BCO in your area, please get assistance from the nearest BCO or visit/contact RISE GROUP OF COMPANIES HEADQUARTERS, Suite1906, Robinsons Galleria Corporate Center, EDSA cor. Ortigas Complex, Quezon City, Tel. No. (02) 687-1737 / 687-2917; Telefax: (02) 687-0941, Text #s: 0919-6727808 / 0919-2123230 / 0917-6181516

DECLARATION OF LOSS

THIS IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT TO **EVERGREEN FARMS, INCORPORATED** WITH ADDRESS AT DATU ABDUL, PANABO, DAVAO PROVINCE DATED 18 NOVEMBER 1974 UNDER BOI REGISTRATION NO. 75-451 WAS LOST AND CAN NO LONGER BE FOUND AMONG ITS OFFICIAL FILES.

ISSUED THIS 27th DAY OF JUNE 2001 AT DAVAO CITY, PHILIPPINES, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. JOCELYN ARRO-VALENCIA**
CORPORATE LEGAL COUNSEL

(PDI--Aug 8, 2001)

DECLARATION OF LOSS

THIS IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT TO **DELTA FARMS, INCORPORATED**, WITH ADDRESS AT DATU ABDUL, PANABO, DAVAO PROVINCE DATED 16 AUGUST 1976 UNDER BOI REGISTRATION NO. 76-610 WAS LOST AND CAN NO LONGER BE FOUND AMONG ITS OFFICIAL FILES.

ISSUED THIS 27th DAY OF JUNE 2001 AT DAVAO CITY, PHILIPPINES, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. JOCELYN ARRO-VALENCIA**
CORPORATE LEGAL COUNSEL

(PDI--Aug 8, 2001)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
GENERAL HEADQUARTERS
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City
Tel: 911-6433/911-6001 Loc 6592; Tel/Fax: 912-5491
bac_secretariat_afpmp@hotmail.com

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Armed Forces of the Philippines invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the UPGRADE OF ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER (APC) M113 (A1s and A2s), with an approved budget of One Hundred Forty Four Million Pesos (Php 144,000,000.00) under the AFP Modernization Program.

Only bids from entities which make, develop, fabricate, assemble, build or otherwise produce the APC M113 shall be entertained.

Bid documents will be available for issuance starting **August 9, 2001** during office hours at the BAC Secretariat, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Capability, Material and Technology Development, J9, AFP, 3rd Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City upon payment of Fifteen Thousand Pesos (Php 15,000.00) which is not refundable. The form of payment will be in cash or cashier's check in favor of the AFP Modernization Act Trust Fund.

A Special Power of Attorney, issued by the prospective Bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents in its behalf, shall be required before issuance of the bid documents.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on **August 21, 2001** at 2:00 PM (local time) at the Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissioned Officers Club (AFPCOC), Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Bidders are required to submit their queries in writing to the BAC Secretariat seven (7) days prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

The Bidder shall be allowed to inspect the APC M113 and facilities upon purchase of bid documents until the deadline of submission of the First Stage envelopes.

Deadline for submission of Bid Documents (First Stage) is on September 11, 2001 at 9:00 AM (local time) and followed by the Opening of Bids at 1:00 PM at the Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissioned Officers Club (AFPCOC), Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever for any expenses or losses that may be incurred by the bidder in the preparation of the bid.

FOR THE CHAIRMAN, BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE (BAC):

(Sgd.) **CARLO V. ALCANTARA**
Captain PA
Legal Officer

(PDI--August 8 & 9, 2001)

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

THIS IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT THE BRANCH OFFICE OF **MULTIDINAR MANPOWER INTERNATIONAL SERVICES INC.** LOCATED AT **BLUE HOUSE SASA DRIVE DAVAO CITY** IS NOW TRANSFERRED TO **VETERANS AVENUE CORNER GOV. LIM ST. ZAMBOANGA CITY** WITH **TELEPHONE NUMBER (062) 9932904.**

(PDI – Aug. 8, 2001)

ATTENTION FARMERS & ENTREPRENEURS

Gasendo Technologies USA can convert your discarded coconut husks, rice husks, banana stalks, bagasse, drift woods, other fuels into valuable fertilizer, table salt, electricity, chemicals, other products and byproducts. Interested parties contact GTUSA, Box 1031 Monterey Park, California 91754
Telephone (323) 266-2677
email: gasendo@aol.com

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2nd Death Anniversary

FILIPINAS "Ihnas" Z. AGUILAR-ATA

2nd Asst. City Prosecutor of Makati

18 August 1955 — 8 August 1999

She is lovingly remembered in all the Masses being celebrated today, 8 August 2001, at the **National Shrine of the Sacred Heart** on Sacred Heart Street, San Antonio Village, Makati City, at which she devotedly served as a Lector and Member of the Mother Butler Guild.

"God says, I will save those who love me.
I will reward them with eternal life."
Psalm 91:14, 16

MAGNO CABRAL ORDOÑEZ

of Mexico, Pampanga and San Juan, Metro Manila

Has joined his Creator on August 6, 2001 at the age of 69.

He is survived by his wife **Minda (Bundalian)**; children **Marty** and **Ana (Mendiola)**, **Mammelle** and **Victor Vibal**, **Mikko**, **Melijo** and **Ruel Mariano**; grandchildren **Milan**, **Magel**, **Mika**, **Miguel**, **Marco** and **Mario**; brothers, sisters and in-laws **Trinidad** and **Milagros**, **Sergio** and **Betty**, **Victoria** (†), **Prudencia** and **Fidel Alfonso**, **Corazon Calica**, **Ador** and **Edna**.

His remains will be at the National Shrine of the Divine Child, La Salle, Greenhills, Ortigas Avenue, Mandaluyong City at 4:00 p.m., August 8, 2001.

Funeral Mass shall be on August 10, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. at the NSDC followed by Cremation Services at 4:00 p.m. at the Loyola Cremation Services, Inc., Guadalupe, Makati City.

LEONARDO ROSALADA LANUZO

Joined his Creator on 2 August, 2001
at the age of 71.

His bereaved wife **LIZA**; children **NORETHE**, **LEA CANDIDA**, **LEO ANGELO** and **LAWRENCE**; granddaughter **JIANNE**; brother **JAIME**; sisters **FELISA**, **SOCORRO**, **MAGDALENA** and **ANASTACIA**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Cremation will be on Thursday, August 9, 2001 at La Funeraria Paz after the Requiem Mass at 12 noon at the Most Holy Redeemer Parish Church, Brixton Hills, Quezon City.

"One thing I ask of the Lord, This I seek;
To dwell in the house of the Lord,
All the days of my life." (Psalms 7:4)

AUREA "ORI" ERFE-MEJIA y MELECIO De ABCEDE

(San Fabian, Pangasinan, Dagupan and Baguio Cities)

19 July 1915 — 06 August 2001

Beloved spouse of **WW II/PEFTOK Veteran B/G SALVADOR, Sr.** (†); loving mother of **Cesar** (†), of the Order of the Knights of Columbus, Council 7652, Talisay, Batangas and GAMA SIGMA FRATERNITY.

Loving children: Fe Macasaet Abcede; OIC-RD/DILG Isabelita, CESO IV; Salvador "Chuckoy", Jr. and **Gertrudes "Tuding" San Diego; David** and **Nayda; grandchildren:** Candy & Obet: Ross; Buddy; Andrew & Arlene (Navarrete); Eric & Joy (Arabe): Jerich/Jambi & Agnes: Kim, Michelle, Christian, Rafael; Jenny & Boy: Nikka, Chenee; Raffy; Chiqui; Mark & Jeanette: Jean-Mark; **siblings:** Consorcia (†) & Angel Leviste (†); Cresencia (†); Fidel (†) & Remedios (Melecio); Angeline & Pete Aspiras; Felissa & Mariano Maramba (†); Flora (†) & Wulfrano Oreta (†); Lourdes & Fred Urian (†); Ruth (†); **nieces and nephews:** Mother Angelica E-M Leviste, OSB; Tristan, Siegfried & Shirley; Frederick/Susan & Eddie (Crisologo); Vicky; Robert & Jean (Posadas); Ellen & Tato (Munda)/Merle & Rico (Santamaria)/Roberta "Bobbie" & Ed (Padero) Sr.; MLC "Coni" (Oreta).

She lies in state at St. Ignatius Cathedral Mortuary, Camp Aguinaldo, EDSA, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, August 14, 2001 at the Libingan ng Mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at the St. Ignatius Cathedral.

"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."

2 Corinthians 5:4-5

In Loving Memory on the
21st Death Anniversary of

Mayor Domingo Bustos Flores

(who died August 8, 1980)

Masses will be offered at the following churches:

1. **Presentation of the Lord Parish** .... 6:00 AM
   (Batasan, Macabebe, Pampanga)
2. **San Nicolas de Tolentino Church** .... 6:00 AM
   (Macabebe, Pampanga)
3. **San Nicolas de Tolentino Church** .... 6:00 AM
   (Congressional Subdivision, Quezon City)
4. **St. Joseph Church** .... 6:00 AM
   (Balintawak, Quezon City)
5. **Sta. Quiteria Church &**
   St. Francis of Assisi Church .... 6:00 AM
   (Sta. Quiteria, Caloocan City)

"Whoever serves Me must follow Me; and where I am,
My servant also will be." John 12:16

Our Dearly Beloved

ENGR. PEDRO SARMIENTO URGELLO

born on October 21, 1908, Carcar Cebu
peacefully joined his Creator on August 6, 2001 at the age of 93.

His loving wife: **Justina**

His beloved children & in-laws:
Sr. Catherine, FMA
Patricia Jocelyn
Sr. Marietta Catherine Laboure, MC
Fr. Agustin (Ting)
Antonio (Boy) & Lilibeth (Gingoyon)
Pedro Jr. (Jun) & Eileen (Ouano)

Sisters: **Consolacion, Pacita & Remedios** Brother: **Dr. Virgilio Urgello**

Grandchildren: **Anton Dominic, Janine Elzbeth & Jon Joshua**

Relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at San Lorenzo Ruiz Chapel at **CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS, INC.**, A.S. Fortuna St., Banilad, Mandaue City.

Interment will be on Saturday, August 11, 2001 at Cebu Memorial Park after the Funeral Mass at 8:30 a.m. at St. Joseph Mabolo Parish.

"I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are Yours."

John 17:9

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Gregorio "Boy" Hufano, Jr.

who has pending warrants of arrest issued by the Metropolitan Trial Court of Makati for multiple violations of B.P. 22 (9 counts)

REWARD
will be given for information leading to the arrest

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LITO MAMORA
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Km. 5, J.P. Laurel Ave., Davao City, Philippines
Tel. No. 221-9400 (connecting all departments)
Tel. Nos. 221-62-18 to 19 (Regional Training Center, Madapo Hill, Davao City)
Fax: (82) 226-4885

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY/APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All interested contractors with category PCAB D and above, and IAC Special Classification on Well Drilling or Water Supply are invited to participate in the bidding for the **EXPLORATORY/WELL DRILLING OF TWO (2) PRODUCTION WELLS**, using Rotary Method, here in Davao City.

The Appoved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of each well, and its location are as follows:

1)	San Isidro, Bunawan —	Php 2,433,816.83
2)	Production Well # 37, — back of Greenland Subd., Dumoy, Toril District	Php 3,154,941.52

Pre-C/eligibility requirements are available at the DCWD BAC-B office starting **August 10 to 16, 2001** during its business hours.

Deadline for the submission of Pre-C documents	- **August 20, 2001**
Issuance of Plans	- **Sept. 06, 2001**
Pre-bid Conference	- **Sept. 13, 2001 at 3:00 p.m.**
Bidding	- **Sept. 20, 2001 at 3:00 p.m.**

The DCWD reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informalities therein, or to award the project to a bid that is considered most advantageous to the agency.

(Sgd.) **ENGR. WILFRED G. YAMSON**
Chairperson, Bids & Awards Committee-B

(PDI -- Aug. 8, 10 & 15, 2001)

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

July 29, 2001

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID

The National Housing Authority is inviting interested contractors who have completed similar land development works (at least 50% of Estimated Contract Cost) within the last three (3) years and accredited with PCAB/IAC, to prequalify and bid for the contract listed as follows:

Bid Package	Scope of Works	Project Cost (Million)	PCAB Category	IAC Class.
A. San Jose Resettlement Project, Bgy. San Jose, Occidental Mindoro	Land Dev't. roadworks, & drainage works	P6.40	B	Medium A for Roads
B. Menzi Housing Project, Isabela, Basilan	Const. of 44 housing units	P3.60	B	Medium A for Building

A. Eligibility Statement forms and bid documents/plans are available at the Office of the BAC Secretariat, 2nd Floor, NHA Main Building, Diliman, Quezon City upon submission of the following: a) Letter of Intent (LOI); b) PCAB/IAC License; c) Certificate of Completion/Acceptance and Contract Agreement of completed similar project; and d) Presentation of the above original documents for authentication purposes.
B. Deadline of submission of LOI/other documents is on **August 14, 2001**. Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on August 16, 2001 at 10:00 a.m. at the Operation Center, 3rd Floor, NHA Main Building, Diliman, Quezon City.
C. Payment of non-refundable fee of P2,500.00 per set shall be received only from authorized representatives.
D. Bid deposits shall be in the form of cash, Manager's or Cashier's Check.
E. NHA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive formally of any defect thereon, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **JOSEPH PETER S. SISON**
Assistant General Manager
Chairman, Bid and Award Committee

(PDI - Aug. 2, 8 & 13, 2001)

DECLARATION OF LOSS

THIS IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT TO **FARMINGTOWN AGRO-DEVELOPERS, INCORPORATED** WITH ADDRESS AT DATU ABDUL, PANABO, DAVAO PROVINCE DATED 11 JULY 1974 UNDER BOI REGISTRATION NO. 74-354 WAS LOST AND CAN NO LONGER BE FOUND AMONG ITS OFFICIAL FILES.

ISSUED THIS 27th DAY OF JUNE 2001 AT DAVAO CITY, PHILIPPINES, IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. JOCELYN ARRO-VALENCIA**
CORPORATE LEGAL COUNSEL

(PDI--Aug 8, 2001)

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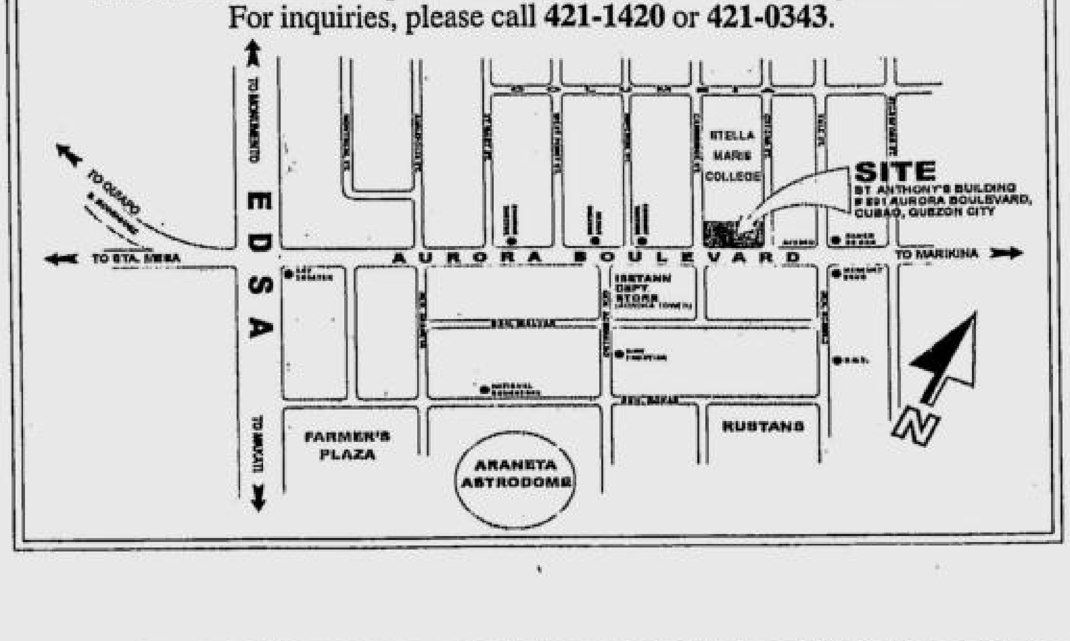

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PEOPLE at WORK

RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ REGINA GALANG REYES, Subsection Editor

Win-win is best for industrial peace

BY ERNIE O. CECILIA

(Last week, Mr. Cecilia wrote on win-win agreements as the ideal in negotiations. He stated that these happen when people are genuinely interested in finding mutually acceptable solutions to their problems. He gave some tips in reaching win-win solutions: 1) Don't be greedy, 2) Don't be too legalistic, 3) Don't put one over the other, 4) Don't sweat the unimportant and 5) Don't be inflexible. The following second part of his article lists the do's in achieving win-win solutions.)

1. COUNT your blessings.

Rising costs, dwindling business, economic crisis and erosion of purchasing power—these are what plague both employers and employees today. While employees use these reasons for asking large pay increases, employers use these same arguments for declining such requests.

Maybe, both parties must stop and realize that they are equally affected. If they look around them, they will see hundreds of businessmen gone bankrupt and millions of employees without a job. So what are they complaining about? They still have a business or are still employed! Let us remember the lesson from that man who mused, "I complained that I had no shoes, until I met a man who had no feet."

2. Live and let live.

Employees must not "kill the goose that lays the golden egg." On the other hand, businessmen must share with their employees the fruits of their labor. The idea is to find the middle ground where business will be allowed a fair return while workers get their fair share.

When one party forgets that it needs the other, it lets greed creep into its system. Both parties are advised to see each other as partners, not adversaries, friends not foes. They must also look not just at the here and now, but at the long term. Living for today only makes us forget about tomorrow.

3. Be transparent.

Negotiations must be an intelligent exchange of information. Understanding thrives best in an environment of openness and transparency. Be transparent and never deceive the other party with false information. It is easy to present facts but falsehoods are invented.

When one party presents wrong or fabricated data, the other will resent it. Then, trust is lost and is difficult to regain. Hiding pertinent information will not do any good. At best, it can becloud the issues and delay the negotiation.

4. Listen and understand.

Negotiators are keen on talking, presenting and arguing. In fact, they come to the table prepared to do just these. Both parties are usually equally guilty of not listening to the other.

Listening is basic courtesy and it helps in understanding the other party. I have seen several disagreements that arose from the simple failure to listen. Moreover, the clue to a settlement is usually in the statement of the other party.

Samuel Taylor Coleridge once said, "The first duty of a wise advocate is to convince his opponents that he understands their arguments and sympathizes with their just feelings."

5. Aim to solve and resolve.

"With that union demand, I don't see how we can reach an agreement!" says the management lawyer. "With that management lawyer, I'm sure we will have a deadlock!" says the union president.

If these were the words said at the initial meeting, you can expect a deadlock in negotiation. On the other hand, if both parties know that there are differences in positions but are predisposed to resolve them, there is a higher probability that the negotiation will succeed.

It is easy to reach an impasse or deadlock in negotiation. The more challenging thing is to reach a mutually acceptable agreement—a win-win solution.

The words of Joseph Addison should ring loud and clear to all negotiators. "If men would consider not so much wherein they differ, as wherein they agree, there would be far less of 'uncharitableness' and angry feeling in the world."

(Send feedback to erniec@edsamail.com.ph.*)*

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO.

'Should I leave a stable job to study?'

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

BY TITA DATU PUANGCO

I AM working as a regular employee in a stable company. I am also taking up my master's degree at the State University. It is difficult to ask for special schedules from my boss. This semester I feel like resigning from my job because my boss does not want me to leave one hour earlier to accommodate my studies.

I confided my problem to my classmate and she offered me a contractual job at the university. I know the contractual job will make things easy for me since I will be on campus, there are less travel hassles and the job pays better than my current job. Then again, I am not sure if I am ready to give up my regular job. I am confused. I am 24 years old and I am decided to finish my graduate degree. In case I go for the contractual job, I am also considering teaching on Saturdays. I also got a partial scholarship from DOST. Please help.

Confused High Achiever

What I can sense is a determined high achiever keen on attaining her goals. I propose approaching your dilemma in two ways. One is to use the logical decision analysis approach and the other is to deal with your dilemma from a psychological perspective.

In the logical approach, first determine your decision objective. In this case, it is to find the best means to achieve your vision. Think through the criteria for selecting the best among various options. From your letter, I can sense that some of these criteria are: income of a certain level, getting to school on time, completion of your graduate studies, keeping your job in a stable company, and performing excellently in your current job. Then, determine which of these criteria are musts and wants.

Proceed to weigh each of your options according to your criteria. One option is to stay employed with the stable company and leave early no matter what the boss says. Another is to take the contractual job, get to school on time, complete your studies and teach on Saturdays. A third option is to ask for flextime and go to work one hour earlier so you can leave one hour earlier (if this is feasible). The fourth is to look for a regular job near the university. The option that meets all your musts and most of your wants would be the best logical choice.

Psychological approach

After making a logical choice, you still may be feeling uneasy about your decision. To deal with this, you can use the framework provided by William Bridges. Bridges notes that when we are faced with a transition, we go through the following psychological stages of endings, neutral zone and new beginnings.

If you decide to resign from your job in the stable company, prepare a good transition plan for yourself. Develop a set of strategies for managing the endings and losses due to change. Identify the losses and your feelings about them. Recognizing the losses will prepare you mentally for the change.

Then, ask yourself what are your worst fears and test whether or not they indeed have basis in fact. One of your fears may be that you will never find another stable company that offers good benefits and perks. If you have a master's degree, you might have more options in terms of stable companies in the future. But then again in these uncertain times, is there such a thing as a company that can stay forever stable?

Focus on new possibilities. What would be the best thing that can happen to you because of the change? What would others envy in your situation? Identify the unnecessary mental baggage that you carry. What do you need to let go? What will no longer work in your new job?

Moving forward

Move forward and decide on some exploratory actions. What five little steps can you take to get started in the new direction? What would be your learning objectives for each step? What would be unnecessary diversions?

On the other hand, if you decide to explore the contractual job, do you have enough leave credits to spend a day or so observing what the new job may involve before taking the final step? It would be helpful if you can see the new environment in which you will work and get a chance to meet your future officemates. Try the new job mentally to lessen the risk of not succeeding in the new job.

Finally, even after taking the logical and psychological approaches, do a final check. Pray over the decision. Listen to the voice of God within you. Once you decide, proceed to act with boldness. I am sure with persistence and determination you can achieve your vision and find many opportunities awaiting you. May God bless you.

(Ms Puangco is president of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send feedback to ancillaedc@pacific.net.ph *or fax to 892-2902.)*

Avoid time robbers

RECIPES*for* LEARNING

By Moje Ramos-Aquino

LET'S look not just at your work life but your whole life and see where you are being robbed of precious time. This is part of our discussion on our Workshop on Controlling Time for a Happy and Fulfilling Life.

It is difficult to ward off unexpected visitors at work in a highly organized and structured office setting where there are rules of conduct. However, it is more difficult to deal with visitors who come to your house at the most unholy and unguarded hour.

Filipinos are not famous for making appointments before dropping by a friend's or a relative's house. They just come as they please for varied and valid reasons. But do friends and relatives need to have a reason for visiting you? They are always welcome into your heart and hearth. But they are most welcome when you know in advance when they plan to visit and you really have time for them.

Distractions

There are also distractions outside your home. If, like me, you live in an old open community like Barangay 596 in Sta. Mesa, there are mobile vendors of all kinds. Your get disturbed when they knock on your door or even if they don't, by their shouts of "special offers." Here in busy, noisy, bustling, irreverent and fun Sta. Mesa, there are all sorts, as in that immortal song, *"Pitong Gatang"* of our neighbor Fred Panopio. There is never a dull and quiet moment here.

Added to these is the constant stream of people stopping at our house and asking for directions. The reason? We live next door to our very industrious barangay chair Bonjing Fernandez. Those from other barangays, and they are many because he is also a director of the *Liga ng mga Barangay*, would ask for directions from us first because our fence is see-through wrought iron and while his is solid concrete.

Apart from the noise in the street, there are also distractions inside the home. Your spouse and children are forever asking for this and that.

In this setting, how do you get peace and time alone at home? Here are some suggestions.

First, don't offer your unexpected visitors anything to eat even if they come at mealtime. Water, maybe, or juice. When you feed them, they stay longer. All right, this is very un-Filipino. But they came unannounced and feeding them will wreak havoc on your budget and time. Now, if they call or tell you in advance that they want to visit you in your house, by all means prepare for them. Show them the brand of hospitality that Filipinos are famous for. But within your budget and tolerance level. And only if you are happy to have them in your house. Otherwise, just say "no."

Second, don't offer them seats, if they say that they are just passing by on their way to another place. Don't even ask them inside your house. Talk to them, standing, at the gate or at the door. They are probably in a hurry to get to their final destination and just want to say "hello."

Third, if your visitors are staying over and you have no extra vacant room in your house, offer them the sofa or folding bed. Give them a pillow with fresh pillowcase, fresh linen and towel. But don't give up the comfort and privacy of your room and bed, or your children's. Remember that you were not expecting them and they did not even give you the courtesy of asking your prior permission. Don't apologize.

Quiet time

Fourth, don't buy regularly from the same street vendor so that they don't think that you are their *suki*. Also, tell them not to knock or call out for you in front of your house. Tell them that you will watch for them if you need to buy something from them.

Fifth, if you want some quiet moments by yourself, tell your housemates so and lock your door and put up a "Do not disturb" sign on the doorknob. If your children or neighbors turn up the volume of the radio or television, talk to them about how you are affected. Be sure that you also don't do likewise.

Always, the golden rule persists. "Do not do unto others what you do not want others to do unto you." Don't visit friends and relatives unexpectedly as you do not want others to do the same to you.

(Send feedback to Moje.Ramos@Aquino.ZZN.com*)*

PHOTO BY ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

PARTNERS FOR PEOPLE AT WORK

Resource persons and sponsors of the second run of the People at Work Live! *Seminar Series* share talents and resources to provide a unique interactive learning festival for working people on Aug. 28, 29 and 30, 2001 at the Makati Sports Club. From left are: Ernie Cecilia, Skills Toolbox writer; Regina Reyes, PaW editor; Moje Aquino, Recipes for Learning columnist; Letty Cid, Marketing Services Manager, National Book Store; Tita Puangco, Advice for the Anxious Person at Work colunnist; Lulu Diaz, PDI Classified Ads Manager; Juan Babst Reyes, president, Optimus Managers and Advisors; Ramon Salazar, general manager, Ronaldo Limbo, comptroller, Virginia Iballo, Food and Beverage Manager, Makati Sports Club. Other sponsors not represented in the photoare Globe Telecom, The Insular Life Assurance Company, Ltd. and Audio-Visual Drivers Int'l. (Phils.), Inc. The topics for this series are "Assertiveness in Communication," "Negotiating Your Way to Success" and "Achieving Your Personal Vision in Troubled Times." To register for the Seminar Series, visit the INQUIRER Classified Ads branches in Metro Manila.

How do you successfully delegate at work?

WORKING WOUNDED

By Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: Over the past year, my company has doubled in size and I'm having trouble keeping up with everything I have to do. My wife tells me I should delegate more, but I'm wary of turning things over to employees who don't know the business as well as I do.

My Plate Is Too Full

Whenever I think of overworked people and plates, I always think of those plate spinners on the old Ed Sullivan show. The late comedian, Joe E. Lewis, once described Ed as "a man who could brighten a room simply by leaving it." Well, the same can be said about your workload. You can brighten—or at least lighten—the load by leaving some of it to others. In other words, your wife is right: delegate. And just to show you that I walk my talk, this week I delegated the task of answering your question to Bob Nelson and Peter Economy who wrote "Managing for Dummies" (IDG, 1997). From accounting to Theory X, they've collected everything you need to know about managing. The following questions have been adapted from it.

1. What kinds of projects should you delegate? Nelson and Economy recommend that you take every possible opportunity to delegate repetitive assignments, information gathering and the task of attending meetings and presentations at which your presence is not essential. These are ideal opportunities for your employees to gain new skills and for you to put your efforts elsewhere.

2. What shouldn't you delegate? Don't give away employee performance appraisals, discipline, counseling, politically sensitive or confidential matters, jobs that your boss asked you to do personally, or long-term vision and goal setting. These are assignments that require your own personal stamp and are too darned important to give away.

Once you've screwed up your courage and done the big D, ensure your employees' success by asking yourself these questions:

1. Were you clear about your expectations? The more specific you are about the outcome you expect, the more likely you are to get it. Don't ever expect people to read your mind. (Heck, I don't even assume that people can find mine.)

2. Did you provide sufficient background? Even a simple assignment has its unique history, circumstances and personalities. It's important to explain the five "W's"—who, what, when, where and why—to the person you're delegating the job to. In fact, I'd add a fifth "w:" what if. What if complications arise? Talk with the employee about possible corrective actions.

3. Did you give her the authority and support to get the job done? Once you've identified potential obstacles, give the person you're delegating to enough authority and support to get around them. Remember: you aren't doing the job, someone with a lot less clout is. Arm her well.

I suggest you follow these tips pretty quickly because, as you're discovering, overwork can be deadly. And you wouldn't want to match this description of Ed Sullivan (from a recent article in Vanity Fair): the Ed Sullivan show is "the only live show with a dead host."

Here are the results of the recent workingwounded.com poll: What has been your experience with delegating at work?

- It's awful—It always seems to blow up in my face, 13 percent
- It's neither awful or great—but approach with caution, 35 percent
- It's great—short of cloning, it's the best way to do more, 52 percent

Our best networking strategy comes from S.P. in Stockton, CA. "1. Don't tell them how to do it, because they may come up with better ideas; 2. Give them the materials and authority they'll need; 3. Set specific dates/times when you'll touch base and stick to them; 4. Point out the good things that they've done and steer them in the right direction on the things you want changed; 5. Appreciate, praise and publicize."

(E-mail feedback to bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

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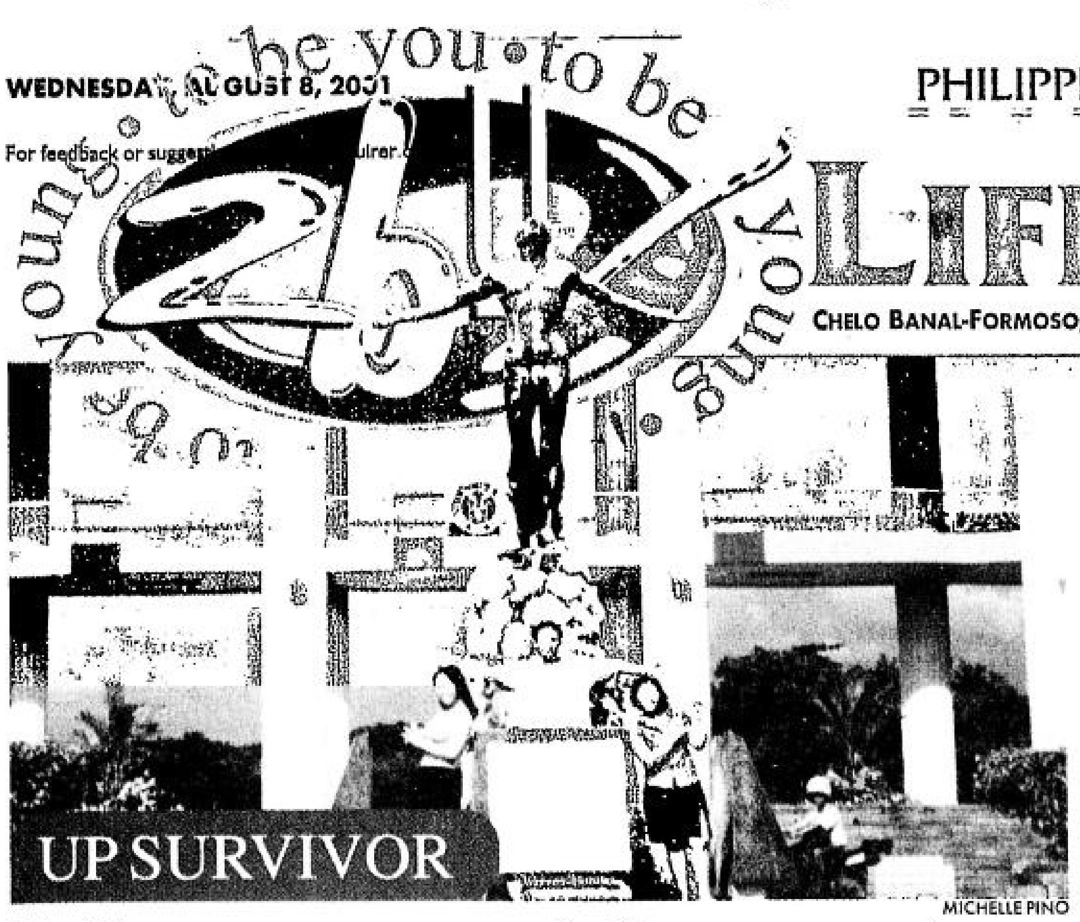

MICHELLE PINO

CATHY YOUNG

Marooned for a day

The 2bU non-UP correspondents grab the chance to spend the day at the State University when they are 'adopted' by their Diliman counterparts

THE IDEA of transplanting the "Survivor" issue and hype to life in UP caused a racket within me. Mentally, I protested on grounds that UP students are not deprived, tortured or harassed in the same way as the KSP contestants on TV (who, in fact, more than willingly joined but ranted our ears off with their ludicrous cries and complaints). On the contrary, being a student of the University is more than a great privilege, albeit the hitches, which is true of everything in life.

Taking the University for what it is, warts and glories, you don't have to be barbarous at all to survive. You just need to be realistic. As my professor in macroeconomics would say, we're living in a developing country, with emphasis on the long-overdue "ing" suffix.

With this in the back of my head, I resolved to show DLSU student Kristine Ching the finer things in UP. It was not long before it hit me that this was near impossible without having to actually enrol her and demand that she take ECON 101 and 102 with my block. She should be made to join the poor souls in purgatory. Armed with nothing else but a string of half-baked ideas, I caved in, and brought her to the comfort room at Vinzons' Hall instead. Leave the description of the memorable experience to her. I know, I know. I'm sorry. Hit me for not putting up a fight for good 'ol UP.

Touring Kristine around UP was fun and amusing, if not for her, well, at least for me. I'm so proud of the acacia trees that line the academic oval; they remind me so much of life outside the city versus the insane traffic that awaits Katipunan. After touring UP in a car, we took a P3.50 ride in the Toki to the University Shopping Center. This is the place to be—you can find everything and anything you can possibly need within the humbled and shambled walls of the structure. Computer rentals, printing, book binding, ID picture, manicure/pedicure, haircut, supermarket, palengke for fish, fruits, vegetables, bakeries, eye shop, pet shop, canteens, school supplies, clothing—*puwede ka pa ngang magpatahi ng damit.*

I wanted Kristine to taste UP, and the best way to go about would be to do it literally. It turned out she was on a diet, which virtually scraped off everything on my things-to-eat-in-UP list. Off went the barbecue at the Beach House, *taho*, dirty ice cream, banana-Q, *kamote*-Q, *lumpia*, fishball, squid ball, chicken ball (yes, it's a novel gastronomic delight added by our aggressive *manininda*s to their bacchanalian bill of fare), *sisig*, etc.

Perhaps the next time Kristine drops by, I'll be a better tour guide. I do pray that she got something meaningful and nice out of the experience. Surely, one day spent in the University is no measure of the four, five, six, seven—God forbid, ,eight—years students while away within its walls.

Margot Tan

The tourist from Taft

Vinzons houses the Student Council office, The Collegian (official publication) office, a room for counselling, an office for exchange students, etc. It is equivalent to La Salle's Student Personnel Services building. The offices basically cater to student services. Collegian staffers must have painted their office walls recently, because the last time I visited the office, the walls were full of graffiti. For bargain hunters, there's a room reserved for companies like Lee, Jag and Levi's that sell their products at very cheap prices. You just have to wait for those flyers advertising the upcoming sale. And about the comfort room, let's say that it's a far cry from what we have in La Salle.

UP's concern with the current issues is very evident in their official newspaper, The Collegian. The articles are about faculties' take on the issues, how the issues affect students—issues, issues and more issues. In our school's newspaper, it's more of student politics, but I wouldn't elaborate on that.

At the Music building, I found people practising with their musical instruments, whilst some talked to each other in an operatic manner. It's pretty unusual because I didn't get to see such kinds of things in La Salle. I found it amusing though that fishballs, taho, sago't gulaman, banana-Q, turon, chips and isaw vendors were found in almost every corner of the campus. Not a single fast food chain in sight. My best friend told me that the best isaw is in UP. I tried their sago't gulaman. It only cost five bucks; in our canteen, it's 10 bucks. I didn't have enough guts to try isaw.

It's a great adventure actually, not a Lara Croft type of adventure, but I consider the absence of fast foods and commuting with jeepneys an adventure. I wouldn't mind visiting UP again. Maybe I will muster enough courage to try isaw then.

Kristine Ching

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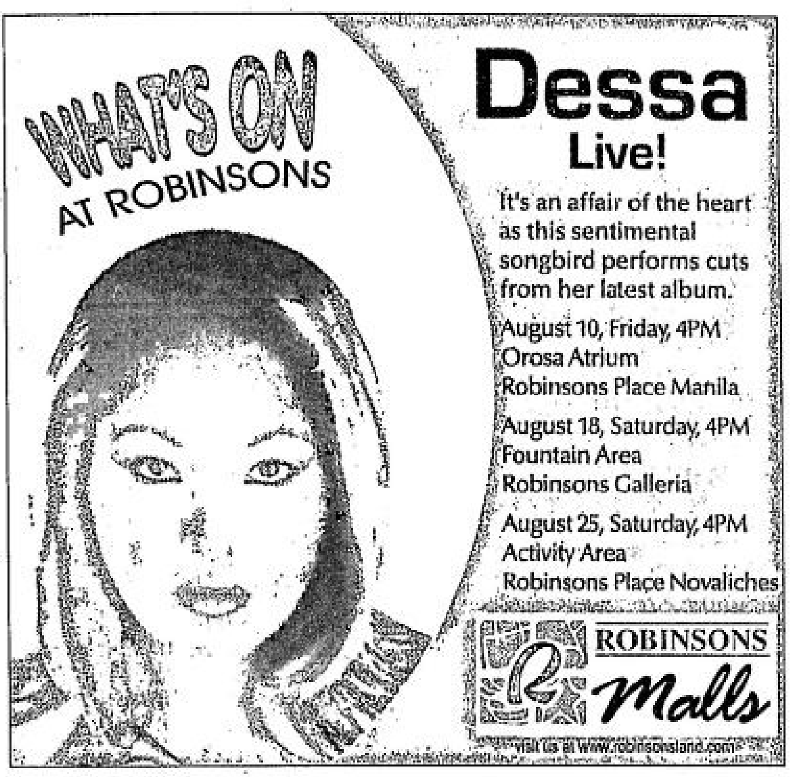
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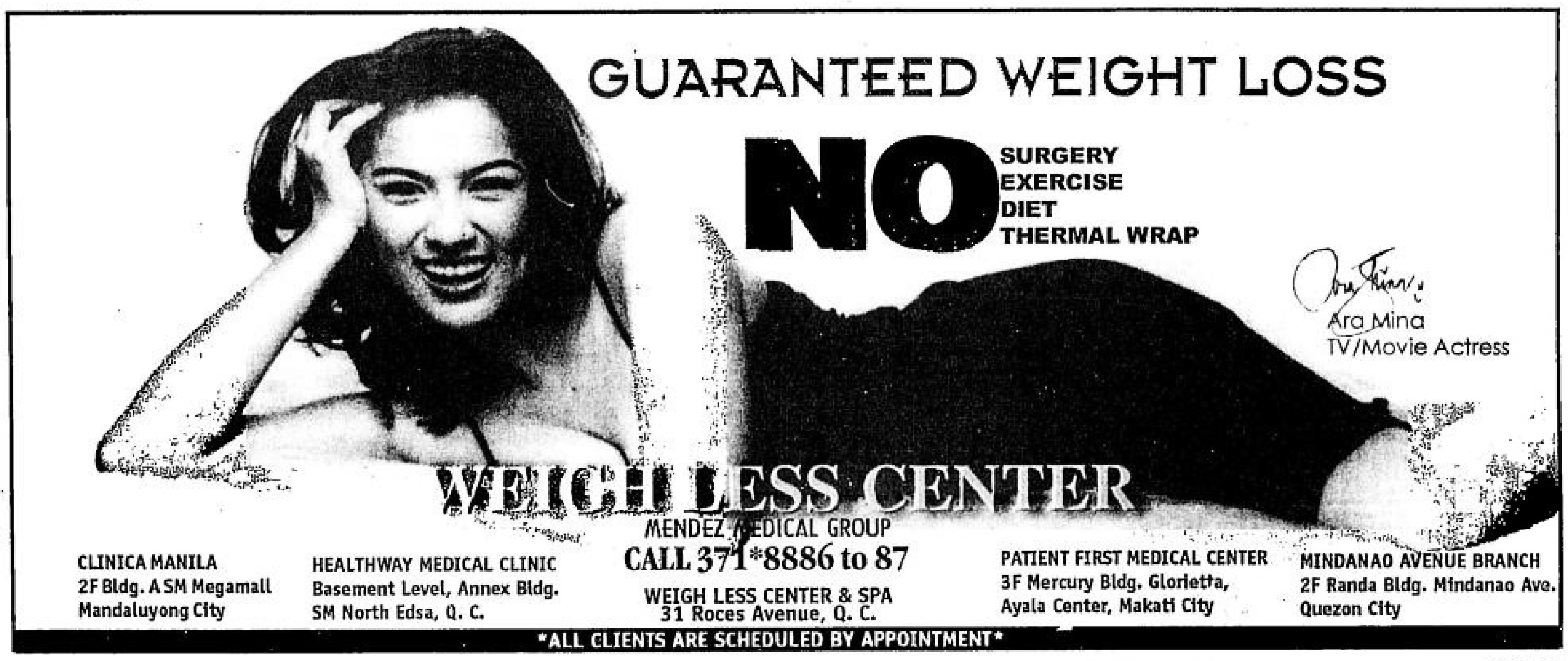
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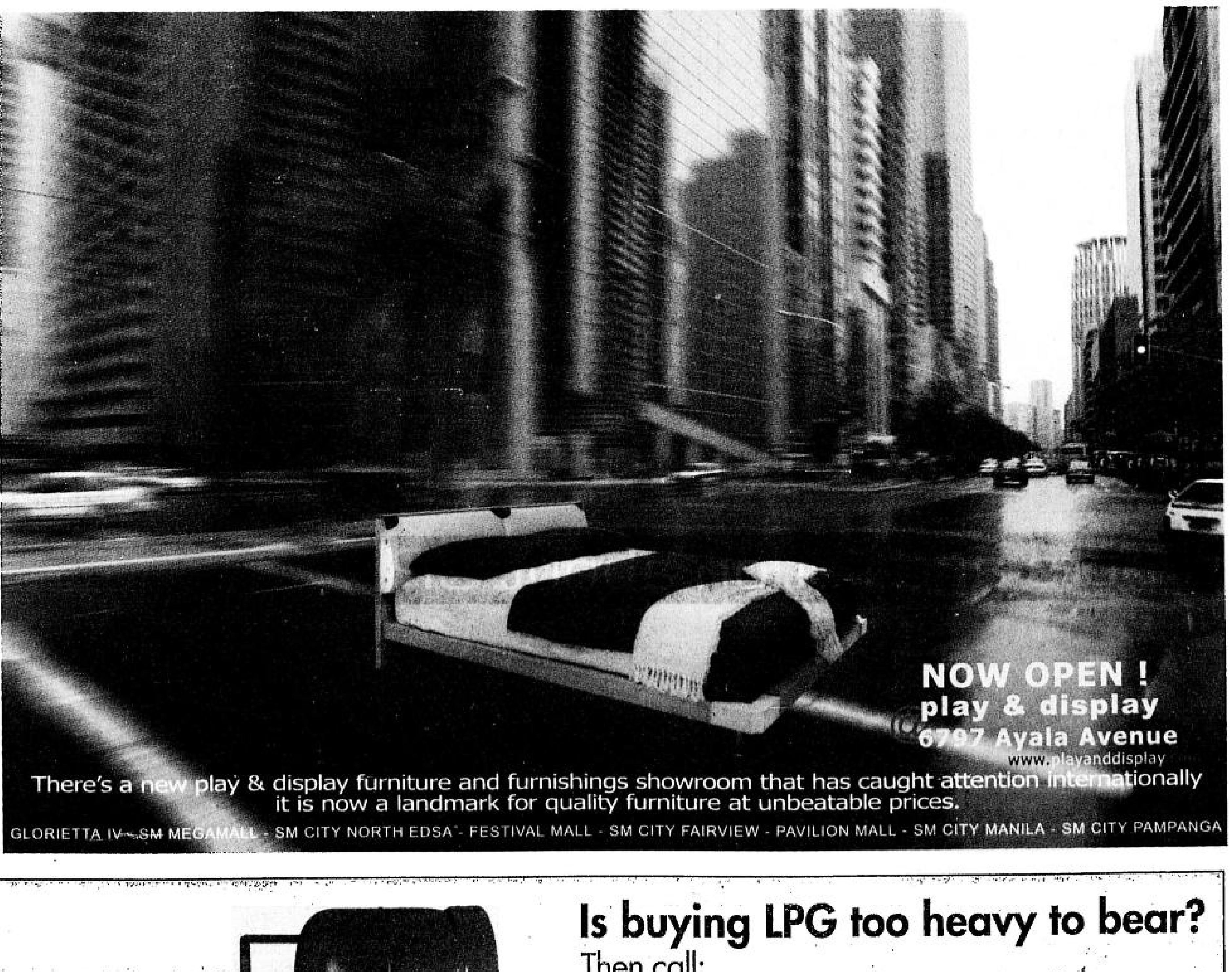
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UP as UP

I was in high spirits that day. I'd be my co-correspondents' hostess and tour guide for the day. But I was a bundle of nerves the night before the pursuit and even during the whole day of venture. I was apprehensive of what they'd feel and think about UP after the plunge to the life of an Iskolar ng Bayan. I was too worried knowing that I had two Ateneans and one Thomasian to hang around with that chaotic but whoopee Friday. But as it turned out… it became a zany and off-the-wall experience for them and for me.

I hurriedly left my P.I. 100 (Rizal) class at 10 a.m. to meet up with them at the AS steps. Taking time to chat with their lost acquaintances way back in high school, I sentimentally swelled with my own memories of sitting and waiting at the steps. Maybe this is what makes UP, UP… the AS steps *tambayan.*

Then at Rodics, I watched Tiffany eat *sisig*, unmindful of the ingredients that Melissa seem to worry about. I ate my own *sisig* meal, remembering the times I shared with old friends in such an old place. Maybe this is what makes UP, UP… the *sisig* in the UP Shopping Center.

As we go back to AS for my Children's Literature class, Melissa's restlessness in the Ikot jeepney caught my attention. I silently smiled, remembering my own struggle as an Ikot or Toki jeep regular. How I wish I could ease her of the trouble. Maybe this is what makes UP, UP… the yellow-colored Ikot jeeps that relentlessly circle the UP Diliman campus.

And as we finished the day by visiting the Oble (Oblation) statue, eating fishballs and all other balls at Manong's push cart and meeting the Council officers at CSSP (College of Social Sciences and Philosophy), I could have gone on and on with my list of "what makes UP, UP." It can be the professors, the classrooms, the orgs (organizations), the get-ups, or even the food, but what completely makes UP, UP is still somewhere out there for the 2bU! team to find out.

After we took the last wacky shot at the Council office, I bade my remaining visitors adieu and hoped that I had shown to my 2bU! colleagues what really makes UP, UP. I checked myself at the mirror in the girl's room and whoa! I saw what we missed the whole day!

What makes UP, UP are its Iskolar ng Bayan, educated by the people and for the people. What makes UP, UP are its Iskos and Iskas armed with nationalistic, humanistic and progressive ideas, equipped with honor and courage to eliminate disease, poverty and ignorance in the land not for themselves alone but for the glory of their people and of something divine.

And I hope the other 2bU! correspondents saw all that in me.

Michelle C. Piño

MICHELLE PINO

UP life for a day

10 a.m.—Non-UP 2bU! correspondents Melissa, Tiffany and photographer Ann wait for 2bU! UP correspondent Mich at the AS steps (the most famous *intayan, tambayan, sunduan* place in Palma Hall).

10-11:30 a.m.—The correspondents ride the Ikot jeep and meet UST correspondent Dexter at the UP Shopping Center or UP SC, tour the UP SC and eat *sisig* at Rodics.

11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.—all five attend Philosophy 113 class (a contemporary philosophy class where Mich has an exam)

1–2:30 p.m.—Melissa, Ann and Mich attend CL 172 class at the 4/F of Palma Hall (a fun comparative literature class on children's literature)

2:30-3 p.m.—Melissa, Anne, Dexter, Mich hover over the fishball cart and eat *kwek-kwek, kikiam*, fish balls, chicken balls and squid balls.

3-4 p.m.—Take a rest at the Lagoon near the Admin Building and visit the Oblation statue at the end of the University Avenue.

4.30-5 p.m.—Visit the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy Student Council office to observe the Council Awareness Week activity and eat the *merienda* feast.

5 p.m.—Take pictures with the cool, crazy council members of the CSSP Student Council, and head home after the outrageous, tiring and eye-opening day!

Things we've learned in UP

- *Sisig* and *kwek-kwek* taste better with *suka*.
- Another name for *kwek-kwek* is *tukneneng*.
- Both Ikot and Toki rides cost P3.50 each.
- The difference between an "*ikot*" and a "*toki*" is that the *ikot* rides go counter-clockwise around the campus while *toki* rides travel clockwise.
- Regular classes in UP last 1½ hours long.
- Never turn your nose up at a used books store. Underneath piles of romance novels at the UP Shopping Center's novelty shop are excellent bargains such as Carson McCullers' "The Wedding" and Truman Capote's "In Cold Blood," both in good condition and retailing for P150.
- If you're a vegetarian, you might want to steer clear of Rodic's, which serves only the tastiest meats—everything from *bopis* to *tapsilog*.
- If there's anything you might suddenly need after class—a haircut, some film developed, an aspirin or an electrical wire—chances are, you can find it at the UP Shopping Center.
- Masses at the UP Chapel are every hour on Sundays from 6 a.m.-8 p.m. (which alternates between English and Filipino every hour as well) which will suit the early bird, the nightowl and everything in between.
- Palma Hall is popularly known as AS among UP students. AS, which stands for 'Arts and Sciences, was the old name of the building.

Compiled by Tiffany Limsico, Dexter Matilla and Melissa Telan

MARGOT TAN

Revelation #001

BY ALEXIS TIOSECO
2bU! Correspondent

MY trip to UP was a revelation.

You may call me wrong, you may call me obtuse and you may brand my claim ludicrous. But do not deny my candor.

I went to the University of the Philippines with a vague impression of the school, and I left with an indelible one.

I never had the chance to explore first-hand the many facets of the University of the Philippines. My notion of the school was based exclusively on the accounts of others. While it is true that some scoffed at its facilities and upkeep, its reputation has remained remarkable, with nary a soul daring to speak negatively about the quality of education it has imparted to its students. From my father remarking of how its populace was grounded, to my professors—with a discreet tinge of fondness in their voice, reminiscing of how difficult studying there was, there was a certain reverence in the tone of people's voices when they spoke of the school.

My curiosity was sparked.

It was not the idea of a well-respected school that baffled me. That was a perfectly plausible and realistic assertion. But rather what arrested my curiosity was the mystique that surrounded the University of the Philippines. It was the way the inflection in one's tone would change when they spoke of the school. It was the way the school was virtually venerated by some of the country's students. It was how it became a source of pride, not only for the students who studied there, but also for the country as a whole. What could have been the reason behind this?

The ambiguity did not resolve itself the moment I stepped on the campus. Like the labor of a procrastinator, it lingered for a while. A thought, later echoed by a teacher of mine, ran across my mind. The surroundings of the school, from the confounded magnificence of the Sunken Gardens, to the profound significance of the structures fronting each school building, were beautiful, but decaying, leaving one with the wish that more funding was allotted for their maintenance. As my guide and I walked, and walked, and walked (it's a big school), eventually traversing the entire campus, the answers to the mystery slowly began to unfold. Eventually revealing themselves in the forms of the graffiti, the Vargas Museum and the Oblation.

Graffiti. The UP Campus is decorated with it. Splattered on the backboards of the jeepney stops and walls of the buildings were strong opinions regarding everything, from the Sona to ROTC to the proposed tuition hike. If it's a topic that matters, you can be sure that someone in campus has two cents to spare. Next, the Vargas Museum. For only P15 (P10 if you are a UP student), you'll have access to considerable pieces of our (Filipino) culture. Historical memorabilia, as well as pictures and portraits populate the ground floor of the Museum, while the upper two levels contain an enormous collection of exquisite paintings and sketches by some of the Philippines' greatest artists. Absorbing the beauty and history contained in the museum left me wide-eyed. Overcome with nostalgia and sense of dignity, one cannot help but hold his head high when leaving the museum, appreciating the talent of the Filipino artist. It was definitely the most fun I've had with P15 in a long time.

The Statue of Oblation. The naked figure of a young man in a symbolic gesture of sacrificial offering of service to country and humanity has found a fitting home in UP campuses, becoming the quintessential symbol of the University and all that it stands for.

An Atenean is proud of Ateneo. A La Sallite proud of La Salle. But UP is different. What these three things—graffiti, the Vargas Museum and the Oblation, disclosed to me, each in its own subtle way was this: That the pride of the UP student body lies not in their school but in their country. This is the reason behind the reverence. This is why UP is so special. While the aesthetic beauty of the school is diminishing, its metaphysical beauty remains. The school is indeed a reflection of the beauty of the Filipino soul.

E-mail the author at eggy_tioseco@hotmail.com

Marooned for a day

Different takes on Diliman life

AS SOON as my Science 10 class ended one Friday morning, I rushed to UP—land of *pambahay* attire, *ikot* jeepneys and fishball *merienda*—and met some fellow 2bU! correspondents to experience UP life for a day. Mich, our native UP guide, patiently toured us with matching tidbits and trivia on the people and places we encountered to satisfy our curiosity.

On the UP Mall—When Mich showed us the UP Shopping Center, better known as the UP Mall, I just had to blurt out, "Um, this is the *mall*?" I could not hide my astonishment. When I hear the word "mall," a vision of a commercial high-rise building comes to mind. What I saw was a dingy two-story building, sans air-condition (except within the stores itself), escalators and designer boutiques. Yet the place has a casual and homey feel, like most of UP. The mall is lined with souvenir shops, Internet and computer gaming rentals, bargain bookstores, photocopying booths, barbershops and eateries found only in UP (such as Rodics, where we had their famous *sisig* for lunch).

Some of us felt that our one-hour stay at the mall was too short. Others talked of plans to visit again, hoping that the bathrooms would be cleaner next time around.

On the fishball culture—Just right after Mich's final class in the afternoon, the rest of us (Tiffany left for a while after lunch to go to class) trooped to the sidewalks and jiggled our coin purses to make sure we still have money left. Everyone's stomach was churning then, so we practically skipped when we saw the fishball stands and excitedly filled our plates with "balls" of different colors and sizes (some of us didn't even know what they were called then!). In between bites, I pressed the vendor for information, "*Mama, ano 'yung* orange ball?" (*kwek-kwek*, quail egg dipped in flour, P2.50) "*Eh, itong* brown?" (chicken ball, P2). Five minutes later, I was a fishball connoisseur.

Eating fishball, *isaw* and other sidewalk delights may not be such a novelty, but in UP, it is more than just *merienda*—it is a way of life.

On people and the atmosphere—Aside from the diversity of people, another thing I noticed about UP was how relaxed and "feel-at-home" the people were. At Palma Hall (known as AS to UP students, where we stayed most of the time), I observed students of all walks of life sauntering around in flip-flops, T-shirts, shorts and *maong* pants—in short, breezy and comfortable clothing. I'd established then that it was not the type of school where one "makes *porma*" and impresses everyone by strutting the hallways in Manolo Blahnik mules or Ralph Lauren pants. There was not an ounce of pretentious or snobby air. Nobody gave a hoot about how everyone else looked. Sounds great, doesn't it?

On UP life itself. But the most revealing thing I learned that day is that UP life isn't really much different from life in my school or, I guess, even any other schools. I found myself comparing both schools, and though the set-up is different, the content is basically the same. My school has also its own versions of *tambayans*, eateries (such as Manangs), make-out areas (yes, we have that, too) and organization hangouts. Although we don't have the *ikot* jeepneys, since the Ateneo is not as big as UP, we have tricycles to get us from one point to another. There are differences, certainly yes, but as a whole UP culture is not entirely as foreign as I used to think it was.

Thus, after 8 hours of *kwek-kwek* and fishball eating sessions, a student council meeting, visits to mushroom-like org *tambayan* at AS and *ikot* rides to capture the scenic UP campus, the question now is: when am I coming back?

Melissa Anne Telan

An endless possibility

JUST for the record, the University of the Philippines was my dream school. But my artsy-fartsy bohemian fantasies were quickly dismissed by my mother, an alumna herself who grew only too wary of fraternity hazings, left-wing activists and a potentially dubious career (or lack thereof) for myself with a degree in philosophy. When 2bU! gave this correspondent the chance to become a UP student for a day, it was more than a window of opportunity; it was the fulfillment of a future that could have been mine.

I had expected my all-too-brief foray into the life of a UP student to provide a stark contrast to my own inside the cozy halls of my academe. It cannot be disputed that UP has a broader spectrum of students from all walks of life—all taking courses just as diverse. With that aside, once you become another nameless face in the hallways, UP could almost have substituted for my own school. There are no guarantees that UP professors are far more brilliant than those any university in the world, some of them can simply put you to sleep. There was the lush rolling campus, one of the best things about studying in Ateneo, which was undeniably more impressive in UP as nearly hundred-year-old trees met with the sky and bowed down to earth. And as with any exhaustive succession of examinations throughout a day, the perfect ending is still unwinding with the friends who know and understand you best.

Leaving UP that day, I could not help but think of how insufficient a day was to truly absorb life on their campus. I still had not eaten at the Beach House, shopped at one of those clothing sales they're always having and met any of the (in)famous Fine Arts students. Whether my tour guide was the Student Council president or the rock-star-in-training (though Mich was wonderful already), I would have seen such divergent perspectives, proving all too well the inexhaustible realities there are in UP.

While walking to my 1:30 p.m. class back in Ateneo, I couldn't help but think that as much as UP was an intriguing and beguiling possibility, perhaps it is not so much where you are, but how you make do with where you are. At least for me, nothing beats the knowledge that your professor knows you are in his class, the reprieve of the bell to save you from the dullest lectures and the convenience of being able to walk to anywhere on campus without having to wait for a jeepney.

Tiffany Limsico

Too personal reflections

I JUST joined 2bU! last month. I immediately grabbed the opportunity to write the UP immersion article along with two Ateneans, Tiffany and Melissa. The night before our rendezvous, I was forced to sleep over at the Varsitarian (official publication of UST) office because of the heavy rains that flooded España. I got home around 7 a.m.! After I took a bath and ate my breakfast, I was back on the road again.

Along the way, I was already thinking how this experience would come out. Then I started thinking about questions that I wanted answered by the end of the day. Like, "Why is it that UP is the best university in the Philippines?" Following far behind are De La Salle University, Ateneo de Manila University, and of course, UST.

I arrived at UP at around 10:30 and I texted Mich asking where they were. I went to the UP Shopping Center. After playing hide and seek with the girls (I went to that food place first, then all around the center), I finally caught up with them at the "Maroons," a clothing shop which sells UP shirts and the likes. I had my first photo taken there with Melissa and Tiffany.

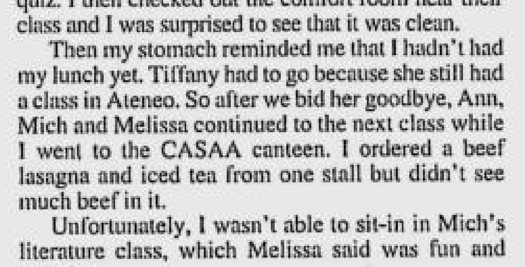
I was so bored at Mich's philosophy class that I felt like sleeping had I not remembered that I did not belong in that class. Ten minutes before their one-and-a-half-hour class ended, we finally went out (Thank God!) of the class save for Mich who had to take a quiz. I then checked out the comfort room near their class and I was surprised to see that it was clean.

Then my stomach reminded me that I hadn't had my lunch yet. Tiffany had to go because she still had a class in Ateneo. So after we bid her goodbye, Ann, Mich and Melissa continued to the next class while I went to the CASAA canteen. I ordered a beef lasagna and iced tea from one stall but didn't see much beef in it.

Unfortunately, I wasn't able to sit-in in Mich's literature class, which Melissa said was fun and amusing.

The rest of the day… was personal history.

Dexter Matilla



MICHELLE PINO

Facts and fiction about UP

BY SHERYLL LOPEZ
2bU! Correspondent

I REMEMBER, back in 1998, during freshman orientation, I stood in front of a group of incoming Computer Science students, wearing my rattiest pair of jeans and sneakers and my plainest shirt, and tried very hard to discuss in Tagalog what I've done the past summer. Later on, I would realize that these were all very futile attempts to fit into my new school (yes, UP). Once I set foot on campus and saw for myself what the University of the Philippines was all about, I realized there was a large gap between what I heard before and what I actually saw and experienced. Everything I heard about UP when I was in high school was just plain old stereotype.

Now that I know better as a senior, I feel that it is only appropriate for me to share with you what these stereotypes are. Disclaimer: All are based on my personal experiences.

Rally *ng* rally

Many people have the notion that all students studying in UP are out on the streets fighting for their and everybody else's rights. Probably, you even think that we hold classes during rallies or mobs (mobilizations). Not true. During my freshman Philosophy I class, someone started banging on our door and begged us to come out. Apparently, there was a walkout of some sort and we were the only ones in the building still holding class. Knowing that some manipulative people used freshies as their version of the "*hakot*" crowd, we did not allow ourselves to be fooled. Besides, we barely understood the reason for the walkout and we had midterms to worry about.

Try asking some rallyists why they are there. Chances are they are just skipping class. "*Ha? Eh, ayoko mag*-class." or "*May* tuition fee increase *daw eh.*" Just as there are people who are always in rallies for all the right reasons, there are also those just wanting to take day off from school.

We are always given a choice and there are UP students who choose not to join rallies. I'm one of those people but this does not mean that I'm apathetic or apolitical. Some students use rallies to voice out their concerns but I personally think it is a little pointless and futile. (Except maybe for Edsa II.)

'Sobrang talino'

People also seem to think that because you passed the UP College Admissions Test (Upcat) and have your very own ID, you are certified smart. Well, we have our share of the mentally challenged coupled with the *hormonal* (a very bad combination). I know there's such a thing as Maximum Residency but, come on! They were seniors when I was a freshie. Now that I'm a senior, they're still failing NatSci (natural science) I. Every year, *tambay lang sila nang tambay* trying to pick up freshies with their pathetic pick-up lines. I could practically see hair growing out of their ears!

Then there are those who may sound smart but actually do not know the difference between *liberate* and *deliberate.* "When you deliberate, it means you liberate yourself," proclaimed one such genius *kuno.* Now I have nothing against this person and she is, in fact, a good friend, but at moments like this we could only wonder if she was just joking or really meant what she said. I admire the professor for not embarrassing her in front of the class which had started to chuckle and snort.

I have also heard of people who are too smart for their own good. A friend tells a story of a student who applauds himself every time he gives the right answer. He criticize everybody else's clothing although he still wears *baston* pants until now. Which brings us to the next stereotype…

'Baduy'

Since high school, people have been telling me about UP students who come to class wearing PJs (pyjamas) and slippers. So I started to believe UP students despised people who were *maporma.* Hence my attire during freshman orientation. I would find out later that the school's policy of allowing students to wear anything they want meant a varied mix of fashion styles.

Some are truly good dressers, not having too much to look good because they can carry well whatever they choose to wear. But there are people who just don't have any fashion sense.

Last Thursday, in my thesis class' attempt to prove that most girls adhere to the positivist school of thought when it comes to dressing up, our professor made us criticize clothes. When I say positivist, I mean adhering to universally accepted standards in our manner of dressing (like never carry a brown bag if you're wearing black shoes, etc.) Our mission was to identify people who are not quite "positivist." We saw a couple. One girl wore a black tank top under a three-fourths blouse of white flowery chiffon with dark green fatigues. A guy wore a black long-back collared shirt under a checkered polo. (Yikes!)

Indeed, there are *baduy* people in UP not because they wear slippers in school. It is about dressing up in a way that is far from your true self.

'Madaldal at pintasera'

Have you ever noticed that UP students seem to be have an opinion on almost everything? "*Lahat na lang in-analyze,*" as my professor puts it. This is probably because we are encouraged to be critical thinkers. We are allowed to say whatever we want in class (of course, without being disrespectful). We are given so much freedom to do and say anything. It lets us learn more probably, that's why we end up bringing our views outside the four walls of our university.

Have you ever watched a movie with the whole *de luxe* section filled with UP students? I remember watching "The Blair Witch Project." You know that scene where the girl finds something wrapped in her friend's clothing? It was enough to spark a discussion among us UP students in the audience:

Yuck! Tongue. The witch cut out his tongue?

Hello! Those are gums.

Nge! Wala naman ipin ah.

No, I think I see an eyeball.

BI-TU-KA.

Or the movie "Moulin Rouge" (the last scene where Satine says goodbye to Christian):

The dialogue has no originality at all.

Yeah, sounds like "The Love Story".

Cliché.

"*Promise me, promise me*"(sarcastic)… *napaka-"Titanic."*

Shutting up is just so boring. Don't get me wrong. I liked both movies but we had to tear it apart to fully enjoy it.

Diliman / Manila

Stereotypes also exist within UP such as Diliman is more liberal than "cloistered" Manila. It is probably because Diliman has more students, more courses and a wider land area that it is more diverse than Manila. But it really doesn't matter what campus you are in. The fact is, we are all UP students with the same freedom and are taught the same principles.

There's more to life in UP than all of this. Who knows what other stereotypes other people may have but you won't know how accurate they are unless you become a UP student. We enjoy our uniqueness and our quirky differences.

From fraternity to fratricide

BY MICHELLE C. PINO
2bU! Correspondent

It's not just the throbbing student activism in the University of the Philippines, especially in Diliman, that makes some parents wary. Many parents deny their kids enrollment in UP because of their fear, admittedly reasonable, about the worsening fraternity-related violence in UP campuses. Are these Greek-lettered brotherhoods all about violence and virility? Is the fraternity system all about power and fame?

Ideally, a fraternity is a circle of men bounded by common interests. Long ago, a fraternity had a religious orientation. These days, according to Beta Sigma's grand princep Udolf Granda, the word fraternity is associated with the notions of brotherhood, excellence, service, professionalism and, most especially, respect.

Fraternities, in their composition, objectives and purpose, are all unique. In the UP campuses, there are two kinds of fraternities: professional and social. Most professional fraternities are college-based frats devoted to strengthening their respective disciplines, such as engineering, law, architecture or medicine. The social frats are mostly university-wide and accept members from various colleges. Social fraternities engage in cultural events, outreach programs and medical missions. Professional or social, fraternities ideally develop their members into well-rounded individuals and professionals who will make good stewards and leaders of the country.

There are 14 fraternities in the Diliman campus. We'll take a look at some of them.

Alpha Phi Omega

The Alpha Phi Omega International Collegiate Service Fraternity was founded on Dec. 16, 1925. It was instituted in the University of the Philippines on Feb. 10, 1952 and was officially recognized on March 3, 1953. Internationally, its alumni include Bill Clinton and Carlos P. Romulo. At UP Diliman, APO alumni include Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay, Freestyle keyboardist Nikki Cabardo, John Lesaca, Philippine National Oil Corp.'s Nazario Vasquez, Comelec commissioner Julio Desamito, Supreme Court Justice Josue Bellosilo. APO projects include the Infirmary Assistance Project, UP College Admissions Test Service Program, AIDS awareness, bloodletting, visitations to foster homes, road-painting, and medical and dental missions. APO's much-awaited event every year is the famous Oblation Run, wherein several members voluntarily streak along the corridors of the Palma Hall.

Tau Alpha

In 1931, 16 UP engineering students founded a fraternity in pursuit of professional development and excellence in engineering. Tau Alpha (The Argonauts) was officially recognized on June 27, 1932 with the late-retired Navy Capt. Angel Francisco Gutierrez de Jesus as first grand high Alpha. Tau Alpha alumni include Vicente Paterno, Gaudenco Antonino, J.P. Dans, Hilarion "Make My Day" Henares, Isidro Cariño, Fiorello Estuar, Ambassador Cesar Bautista, Miguel Magsaysay, Amable Aguiluz V. The frat runs the Tau Alpha Student Loan Guarantee Fund, which guarantees the loans of 135 students for the current semester. It holds medical missions, film showings, tree planting, the Youth Build Blitz of the Habitat for Humanity and bloodletting.

Upsilon Sigma Phi

On Nov. 19, 1918, 14 young men enrolled in the old University of the Philippines on Padre Faura in Manila and established Asia's first Greek-letter fraternity, the University Students Fraternity or Upsilon Sigma Phi. Famous campus personalities joined the ranks of the Upsilon, including patriot and nationalist Wenceslao Vinzons. Other Upsilon alumni are Salvador P. Laurel, Jose B. Abad Santos Sr., Joker Arroyo, Gil J. Puyat, Jose Laurel Jr., Ferdinand Marcos, Benigno Aquino Jr. It has gained the reputation of being the premiere events organizer in Diliman. In fact, the fraternity has pioneered bar-hopping parties, back-to-back movie premieres, and the Upsilon Month, a month-long lineup of projects that includes car-stuffing, "Dakdakan" and the "Day of Roses." The Upsilon, together with the Sigma Delta Phi Soror- ity, has also organized cultural projects such as the musical "Padre Faura Sin Verguenza," as well as the highly successful "Upsilon Classics" concert series.

Beta Epsilon

On Aug. 23, 1929, the University became witness to the birth of the first college fraternity in the Philippines—the Beta Epsilon, "Brotherhood of Engineers." From BetaEp came countless engineers, architects, inventors, educators, contactors and real-estate developers such as Anton C. Kho, David M. Consunji, Domingo T. Toledo, Ramon A. Recto and Antonio C. Kayanan. The fraternity annually puts up "Blockbooster," a trivia quiz show for freshmen, and "Maskipaps," a Yuletide variety show. It also holds orphanage visits, caravans and fund drives. It has donated to the University the Beta Theatrum at the University Lagoon; the concrete archway leading to the Children's Playground; the Beta Epsilon Audio-Visual Room at Melchor Hall; and the well known Beta Way, a concrete walkway across the University quadrangle. The fraternity will celebrate its 72nd anniversary this year with the Open Golf Tournament at the Executive Course of the Valley Golf and Country Club on Aug 17.

Beta Sigma

On July 14, 1946, the first set of officers of UP Beta Sigma Fraternity (Brotherhood of Scholars) was inducted, with Jesus R. Jayme as the charter president or grand princep. From Beta Sigma came Horacio "Boy" Morales, Supreme Court Justice Vicente P. Mendoza, cartoonists Jess Abrera and Ely Santiago, Sandy Daza, Willie Nepomuceno. Its projects are Harana, Operation Big Brother for orphans, free medical clinic, chess games, and its fraternity ball.

> Depending on your point of view, members of UP's Greek-letter fraternities are either knights in shining armor or thugs in cavemen's garb

Strife years

But over the years, a number of violent incidents and even killings have tarnished the reputation of UP fraternities and even the university.

In February 1999, a rumble between Scintilla Juris and Sigma Rho led to the death of Niño Calinao, a fourth-year journalism student. Years before, in 1994, Dennis Venturina, a Sigma Rho brod, became comatose and eventually died as a result of an alleged attack by Scintilla Juris. In February 2000, Den Daniel Reyes of Alpha Phi Beta died of stab wounds allegedly inflicted by members of the Sigma Rho Fraternity at the UP College of Law.

Violent initiations and hazing practices have also damaged the reputation of the frats. Alpha Phi Beta neophyte Alexander Miguel Icasiano died on Aug. 16, 1998 as a result of hazing wounds. Years earlier, on Aug. 6, 1995, Mark Roland Martin died of severe bruises and cuts he suffered reportedly while undergoing initiation to the Epsilon Chi fraternity.

Path to peace

Since 1991, there have been efforts to stem the worsening fraternity-related violence and deaths in UP Diliman. Today, there is the Barkada ng mga Fratmen sa UP, which initiates events that will involve all the frats in activities like the university orientation for freshmen. In June 1999, 14 fraternities formed the UP Fraternity Community or UP.Frat.com to ease the tensions and conflicts between fraternities. Previously, there was the Inter-Fraternity Council that coordinated frat activities and tried to resolve conflicts between fraternities.

Though there are doubts about these alliances; with certain critical sectors chiding them as mere attempts to obscure the alleged innate barbarism of fraternities, the relative peace on campus these days provides hope.that frat men could become worthy enough to be someday called real gentlemen.

Bonding with UP's bands

BY IVY S. PAPA
2bU! Correspondent

DURING my college days at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, I was exposed to various manifestations of creativity and artistry, and it was in the campus' atmosphere of free expression and individualism that I discovered underground music and the band scene. Many college memories involve watching rock concerts with my friends at different clubs in the metro and at the Sunken Garden. We would listen to the bands, admire or criticize them, and pass by them at the AS (Palma Hall) corridors the next day. Obviously UP had more than its share of college bands. That was the case then. It is still the case now.

Some of the bands from UP who are commercially recognized are Eraserheads, Parokya ni Edgar, Yano, Moonstar88 (formerly known as Orphan Lily), Tungaw, Makiling Ensemble and Ugoy-ugoy. If we have to include the bands that have one or two members who come from UP, we may have to name 90 percent of all the bands in the local music industry.

New bands

Nowadays, UP-based bands include Raul, The Purplechickens and Nancy Drool.

Raul is composed of Meg Serrandilla on vocals, Dodong Gamallo and Jimple Borlagdan on guitars, Lou Aldano on bass and Mark Goze on drums. They described their music as an irony. "The nice thing about our music is that we're trying to incorporate a sound that's heavy, but with a vocal style that's *suwabe*, almost ethereal," Meg said.

Dodong said their music is ironic in the sense that the band's name sounds tough, but the front person is actually a woman.

The Purplechickens are Aldus Santos on vocals, Adrian Arcega on guitars, Mayo Uno Martin on bass and Eli Balce on drums. They classified their music as indie pop even though they acknowledged the term is contestable as a genre. Aldus pointed out that in their case, they produce their music "totally independently."

"Everything is low-cost. Even when we perform, it's not a big production, just multi-billing *na* unknowns. *Basta sobrang walang gastos* and *wala rin kaming kinikita*," Aldus said.

Their songs are all emotionally oriented, but not really biographical. Lyrically, they aren't storytellers. "*Kami*, we choose random association, *tapos may latak ng* abstraction, *tapos may latak ng mga natutunan sa pagtula*," Aldus said.

Nancy Drool is an all-girl group consisting of Haya Santiago on vocals and rhythm guitars, Myla Orogo on lead guitars, Tiffany Cortez on drums and Jaja Pelayo on bass. They came up with the name because all of the members went through the Nancy Drew phase. They changed Drew to Drool to give it a twist. Myla, the guitarist, has always liked playing with names. Prior to this, she and Tiffany were with a band called Lois Slain.

As an all-girl band, they feel more pressure to keep up with the regular bands and really loathe to be pegged as a typical girl band with typical girl band music. Everybody in the group contributes in composing songs, but Haya writes most of the lyrics.

Tambay talk

I let the bands discuss band-related issues.

What makes UP bands stand out or different from other school bands? Are they different at all?

Aldus: Periodically, schools go through a phase, like Ateneo three years ago was doing geek pop rock, but now they're doing the hard rock sound. There's a phenomenon that from time to time they accidentally have this unifying psyche. When it comes to us, we really can't study that because we're not detached. Our audience can relate to us. We're put to the test if we go out of Manila. We'd probably stand out if we go to Calamba. Hardcore *do'n*.

Dodong: UST does progressive rock.

Adrian: Actually, even here the colleges have cliques.

Dodong: Fine Arts is into rapcore. Engineering has punk bands, very loud. Then in Business Ad, mga show bands.

Which college has the most bands?

Everybody: Fine Arts.

How come?

Tiffany: Because everybody's weird and there's pressure to be just like them, especially for the impressionable freshmen.

Dodong: I suppose that's only for those who want to lean toward an alternative lifestyle because even in UP, we still have people who go straight.

Do the listeners have a certain perception or impression of UP bands?

Tiffany: Yes, because UP people tend to be more aggressive, so they can be expected not to follow a formula.

Aldus: They expect us to be revolutionary all the time.

What kind of atmosphere do we have here in UP? Is it encouraging, neutral...?

Haya: Definitely encouraging.

Tiffany: I guess it's the freedom. Other schools tend to be more constricted, *mas* confined *sila*. Here, you can wear anything, *tapos* the people come from all walks of life.

Dodong: It's different from smaller schools because here you could have a great gig today, then have a lousy one tomorrow.

Aldus: There's always the sense of threat and it makes you want to be different always.

What are your aspirations as a band?

Aldus: *Ako, makapagpasaya, eh.* (Laughter)

Haya: We really just love doing this.

Aldus: *Para lang talaga makapag*-share *kasi kahit na* we've been together for three or so years, we have never received a big check yet. The goal really is to share your music *na* as widespread as possible, to tap into other markets because so far, we've basically only been playing at QC bars.

> The State University's relative regime of freedom has spawned music bands that have contributed their own kind of excitement to an exciting music scene

Where do you usually perform?

Everybody: Freedom Bar, Mayric's for "Sunday Grabe Sunday," Music Warehouse, Watering Hole...

Who within the UP system is inspiring?

Dodong: UP favorites like Gary Granada, Noel Cabangon, Jess Santiago... (Everybody grins at Haya, the daughter).

They're the ones you respect, but you're not really doing the same thing as they are.

Aldus: It's the ethics behind it. *Pagpupursigi. Sinseridad.*

Tiffany: *Pagpapakadalubhasa.*

How do you regard being in a commercial band? Do you think of it as selling out?

Adrian: It's like what Joey Ayala said. It's not about selling out, but buying in. The band becomes commercialized because the people patronize the band, which is a good thing.

Tiffany: But once you're there, there are demands. That's when selling out comes in. You have to maintain something to remain "buyable."

Aldus: When you reach that point, it's mutual because *wala kang pera, eh*.

What would you consider as the biggest gig in UP?

Everybody: UP Fair (February). Amnesty International, Elvis, Maskipaps (December).

Dodong: December is like the Woodstock month in UP.

What are the gig sites?

Everybody: Sunken Garden, Bahay ng Alumni, Engineering and AS Steps, parking lots, dorms... *marami*.

Tiffany: *Pero* Sunken's the best, feels like Woodstock.

Yes, it is, and yes, it does.

UP ghost stories

BY TAMMY DAVID
2bU! Correspondent

LAST Sunday, UP BA Malikhaing Pagsulat student Jeff Giron told me some UP Diliman ghost stories. And they were enough to give me goose bumps and a good reason as well not to worry about the Upcat results.

MARITA

Seen at: Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater

Claim to fame: If Poveda has an Ursula, the UP theater department has Marita. She was a theater actress. In her last scene, she was lowered to the stage via a harness. When it snapped, she was choked and died. She sometimes appears in theater productions when there are lots of cast members in one scene. Once she was branded a bad actress when everybody on stage was running while she was just walking.

MYSTERY LADY NO. 1

Seen at: Sunken Garden

The story: A couple was making out in a car parked near the Sunken Garden (where else) while their *barkada* were looking out for guards. In the middle of the Sunken Garden, a girl appeared, teasing some of them and doing provocative acts. As they followed the girl, they were led to the couple's car. The flirtatious girl vanished. The guy inside the car cried because, according to him, in the middle of their necking, a strange voice kept saying: "*Anong ginagawa n'yo? Anong ginagawa n'yo? Anong ginagawa n'yo?*"

DEAD ROOMMATE

Seen at: Kalayaan residence

The story: It was the onset of sem break. While a resident was still packing her bag, her roommate was ready to go. Since the former wasn't done yet, the latter went ahead. Then the roommate's parents came in looking for her. The resident told them that she already left. When the resident was about to finish her packing, she opened the closet and saw her roommate inside—already decomposing.

MYSTERY LADY NO. 2

Seen at: Vinzons Hall (second-floor comfort room)

The story: A student was sitting in the toilet when he felt someone was patting or smoothing his head. When he looked up, a girl, hanging from the ceiling, was staring him straight in the eye.

THE DISAPPEARING COMMUTERS

Seen at: One of the jeepneys plying the campus (sorry, I don't know the plate number, etc.)

The story: A guy made *sabit* at the end of the jeepney because it was full of passengers. After a few minutes, the driver curiously asked him why he wasn't taking a seat. As the guy was about to say that all the seats were taken, he saw that the jeepney was empty.

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Pooh
Disney Rain Gears
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MICKEY MOUSE
MINNIE MOUSE
MINNIE
MICKEY FOR KIDS
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SM DEPARTMENT STORE
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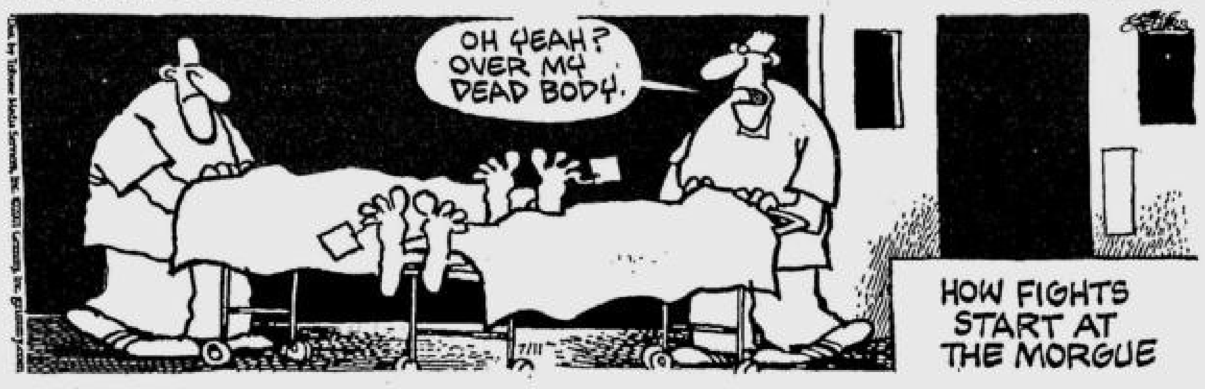
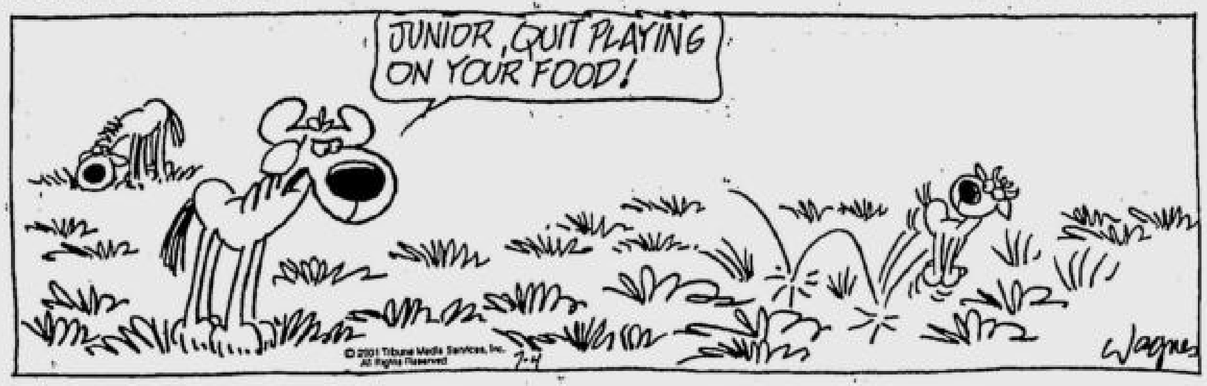
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM
BY MIKE PETERS


OH YEAH? OVER MY DEAD BODY.
HOW FIGHTS START AT THE MORGUE

ANIMAL CRACKER
BY FRED WAGNER


JUNIOR, QUIT PLAYING ON YOUR FOOD!
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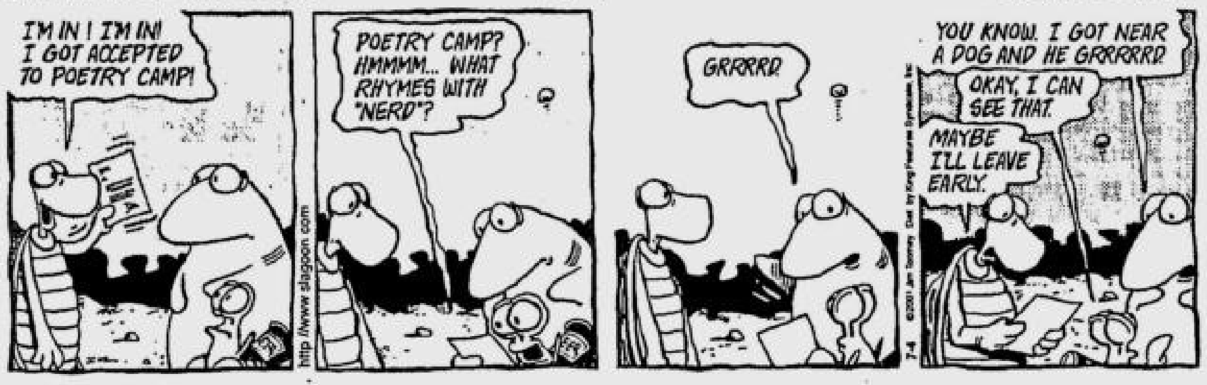
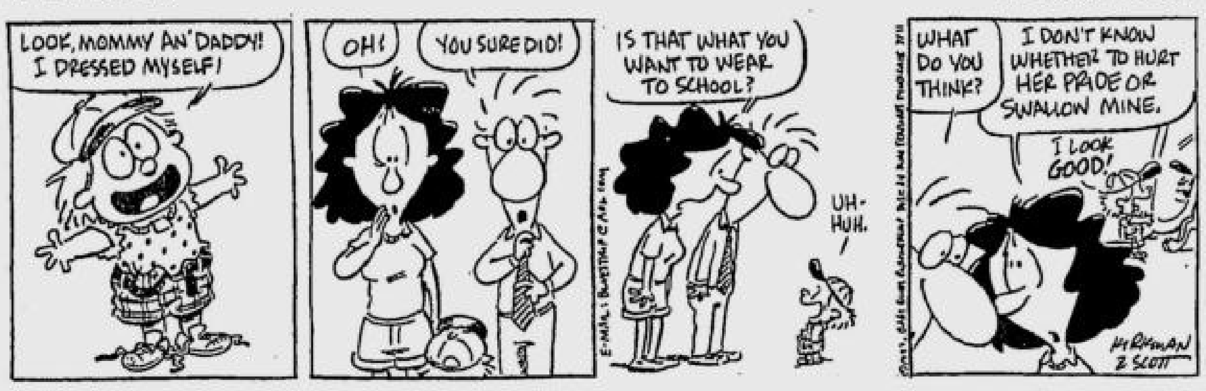
Wagner

SHERMAN'S LAGOON
BY JIM TOOMEY


I'M IN! I'M IN! I GOT ACCEPTED TO POETRY CAMP!
POETRY CAMP? HMMMM... WHAT RHYMES WITH "NERD"?
GRRRRD
YOU KNOW. I GOT NEAR A DOG AND HE GRRRRRD
OKAY, I CAN SEE THAT.
MAYBE I'LL LEAVE EARLY.
http://www.slagoon.com

BABY BLUES
BY JERRY SCOTT


LOOK, MOMMY AN' DADDY! I DRESSED MYSELF!
OH!
YOU SURE DID!
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT TO WEAR TO SCHOOL?
UH-HUH.
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO HURT HER PRIDE OR SWALLOW MINE.
I LOOK GOOD!
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Dustin Hoffman, Mel Tillis, Connie Stevens, Mats Wilander, Keith Carradine

Happy Birthday: Opportunity knocks this year, so be prepared to take full advantage of any offers. Your memory serves you well and your entertaining way of handling others will be admired. Display your talents and prove your worth. Don't just sit back and relax; this is a year to achieve. Your numbers: 11, 14, 29, 32, 36, 43

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't let your partner get the better of you. Stay calm and work on your own projects. If you appear to be a know-it-all, you'll meet with opposition.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll have problems with clients and peers. Don't try to push your opinions on others. Your mate will want a few straight answers. Your lack of attention has made him or her insecure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll probably be involved in some juicy gossip today. Move into the limelight and mingle. Others will be drawn to you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Losses are likely if you jump the gun on investments. Be cautious where you place important items. Do not sign legal documents or any papers pertaining to your residence.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your childlike quality may get you out of some responsibilities that you prefer not to tackle. Your fun-loving approach to life will set the mood today, so be sure to enjoy yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be dropping friends for no apparent reason. People who try to persuade you to do things their way will annoy you. Past partners are likely to reappear.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Expect to feel confused about your personal prospects. Straight answers to your questions aren't forthcoming. Stick to your work and avoid emotional confrontations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Social events should be the day's highlight. Don't turn down an invitation or a challenge that could enhance your chances of meeting someone special.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your magnetic, outgoing personality will capture hearts. Romance will unfold if you take trips or get together with friends. Use your ingenuity and manipulative powers to get what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Someone you live with will be impossible. Don't try to deal with important issues or make changes that will upset the applecart. Ask a close friend for advice.

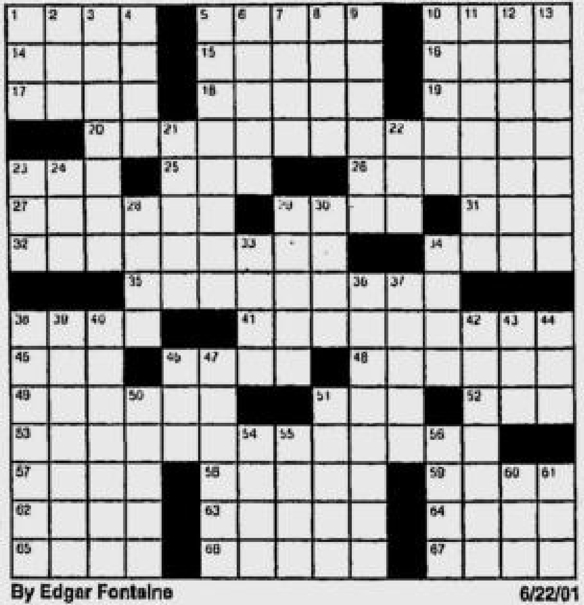
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't overdo it today. Take it easy and enjoy life's little pleasures by letting everyone else take care of you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Avoid depression by staying busy. You can accomplish a lot if you're willing to put in a little extra time. Your efforts won't go unnoticed, but a colleague may become jealous.

Birthday Baby: You are energetic, outgoing and quick to respond. You love to entertain and be entertained. Your unique approach to everything means you will always stand out in a crowd.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com

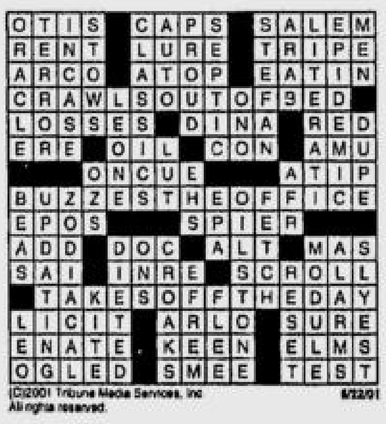


By Edgar Fontaine
Dighton, MA
6/22/01

ACROSS
1 Winslet of "Titanic"
5 Partnered
10 Lingerie purchases
14 Elated
15 Marry in haste
16 Lacoste of the courts
17 Bound bundle
18 Courtyards
19 Stridex target
20 Gladys' bulldozer?
23 Frankenstein's milieu
25 Oldtime Olds
26 Shaped like a crescent
27 Tolerator
29 Say Hey Kid
31 "__ a Most Unusual Day"
32 Group on a hayride
34 Iowa State location
35 Susan's broker?
38 Lady Jane __
41 Hours-of-work records
45 Agt.
46 Fraternal org.
48 Capital on the Hudson
49 Noted speaker
51 Letters on vitamins
52 __-o'-shanter
53 Alonzo once retired?
57 Stubborn beast
58 Venomous snake
59 Bamako's land
62 Summers on the Somme
63 Benefit
64 Clinches
65 Hanoi holidays
66 Ivan of tennis
67 Abound

DOWN
1 CIA's Soviet counterpart
2 In the style of
3 Brag
4 Adam's garden
5 Sparingly
6 Regardless of the fact that, for short
7 Wrongful act
8 Larger-than-life
9 In a heartfelt way
10 Muscular power
11 Take back
12 Actress Bening
13 Visionary woman
21 Goodnight girl?
22 Group of GIs
23 Jurisprudence
24 Lawyers' org.
28 Actress Goodman
29 An Osmond
30 P.D. James' Dalgliesh
33 Milanese eight
34 Part of U.A.E.
36 Caine film
37 Brilliance
38 Reinforced eyelet
39 Send a different way
40 Shoulder decoration
42 Daily grind
43 Generic letters
44 Pathetic starter?
46 __ voyage!
47 Original
50 Lock
51 Overzealous
54 Church section
55 Fed.
56 Radiate
60 "Spiderman" man Stan
61 Belief: suff.

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



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OTIS■CAPS■SALEM
RENT■LURE■TRIPE
ARCO■ATOP■EATIN
CRAWLSOUTOFBED■
LOSSES■DINA■RED
ERE■OIL■CON■AMU
■■■ONCUE■■■ATIP
BUZZESTHEOFFICE
EPOS■■■SPIER■■■
ADD■DOC■ALT■MAS
SAI■INRE■SCROLL
■TAKESOFFTHEDAY
LICIT■ARLO■SURE
ENATE■KEEN■ELMS
OGLED■SMEE■TEST
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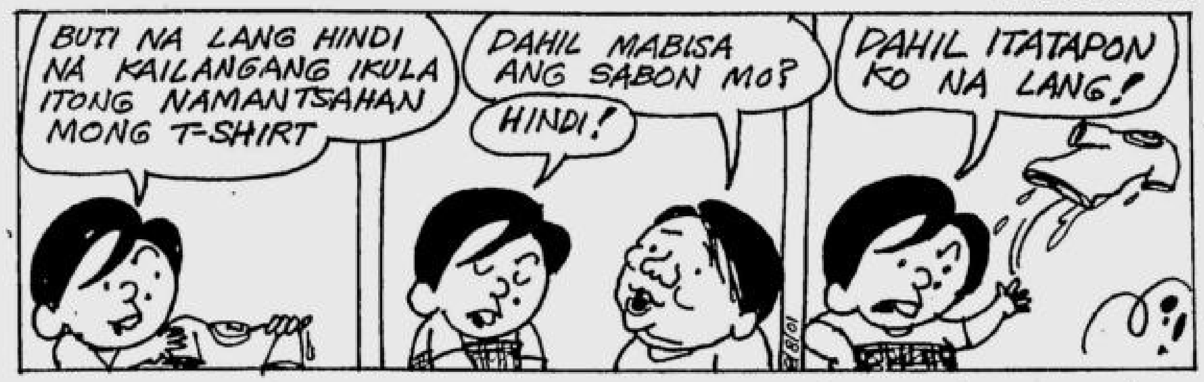
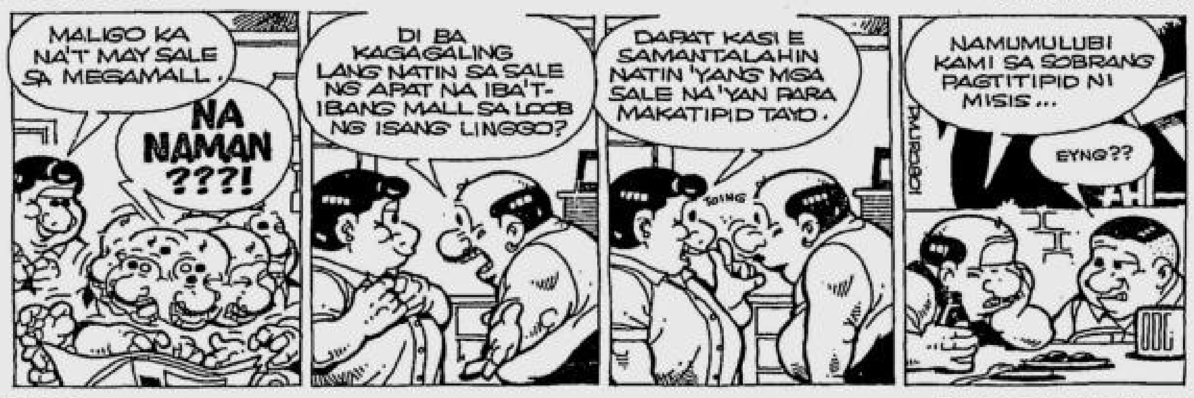
6/22/01

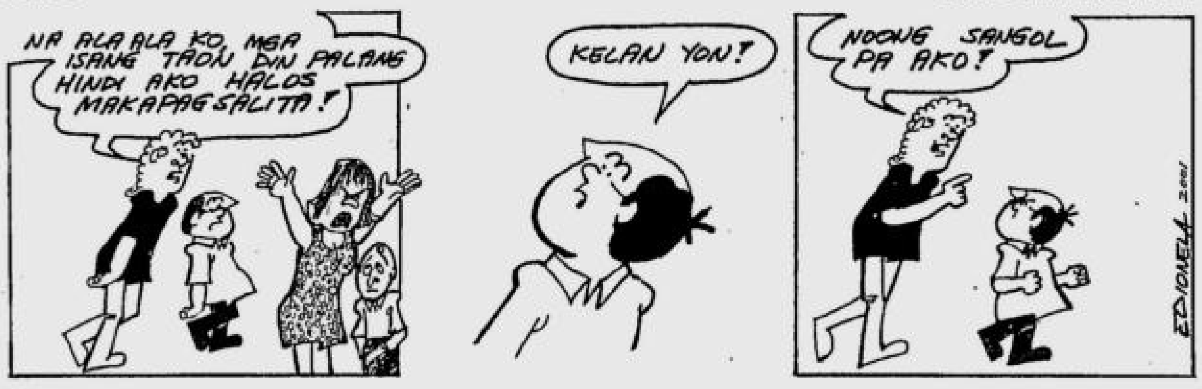
A. LIPIN
BY JESS ABRERA


BUTI NA LANG HINDI NA KAILANGANG IKULA ITONG NAMANTSAHAN MONG T-SHIRT
DAHIL MABISA ANG SABON MO?
HINDI!
DAHIL ITATAPON KO NA LANG!

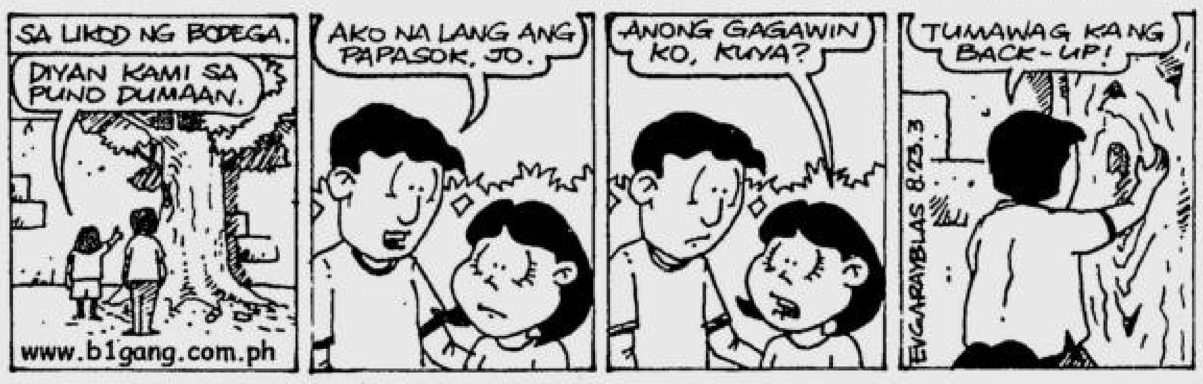
PUGAD BABOY
BY P.M. JUNIOR


MALIGO KA NA'T MAY SALE SA MEGAMALL.
NA NAMAN ???!
DI BA KAGAGALING LANG NATIN SA SALE NG APAT NA IBA'T-IBANG MALL SA LOOB NG ISANG LINGGO?
DAPAT KASI E SAMANTALAHIN NATIN 'YANG MGA SALE NA 'YAN PARA MAKATIPID TAYO.
SOING
NAMUMULUBI KAMI SA SOBRANG PAGTITIPID NI MISIS...
EYNG??
DDG

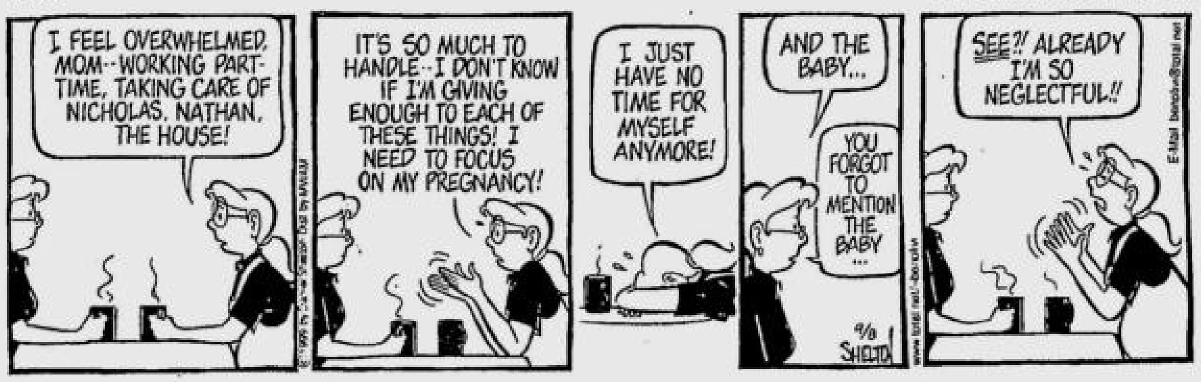
SIMO
BY EDGAR DIONELA


NA ALA ALA KO, MGA ISANG TAON DIN PALANG HINDI AKO HALOS MAKAPAGSALITA!
KELAN YON?
NOONG SANGOL PA AKO!
EDIONELA 2001

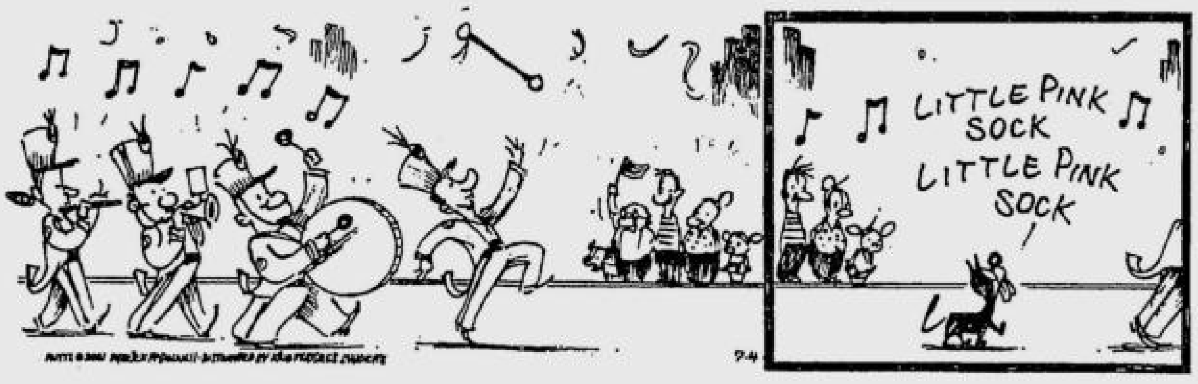
B1 GANG
BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG


SA LIKOD NG BODEGA.
DIYAN KAMI SA PUNO DUMAAN.
www.b1gang.com.ph
AKO NA LANG ANG PAPASOK, JO.
ANONG GAGAWIN KO, KUYA?
EVGARAYBLAS 8.23.3
TUMAWAG KA NG BACK-UP!

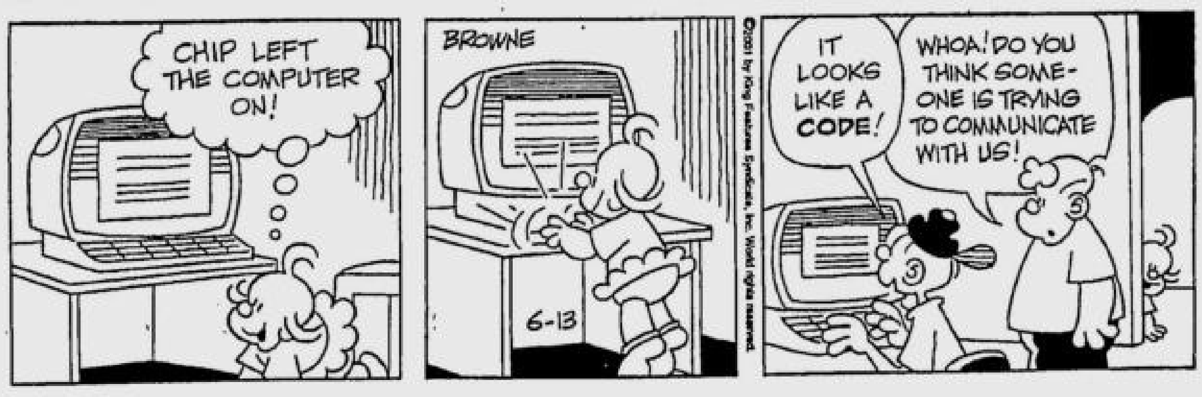
BEN
BY DANIEL SHELTON


I FEEL OVERWHELMED, MOM--WORKING PART-TIME, TAKING CARE OF NICHOLAS, NATHAN, THE HOUSE!
IT'S SO MUCH TO HANDLE--I DON'T KNOW IF I'M GIVING ENOUGH TO EACH OF THESE THINGS! I NEED TO FOCUS ON MY PREGNANCY!
I JUST HAVE NO TIME FOR MYSELF ANYMORE!
AND THE BABY...
YOU FORGOT TO MENTION THE BABY ...
SEE?! ALREADY I'M SO NEGLECTFUL!!
9/6 SHELTON

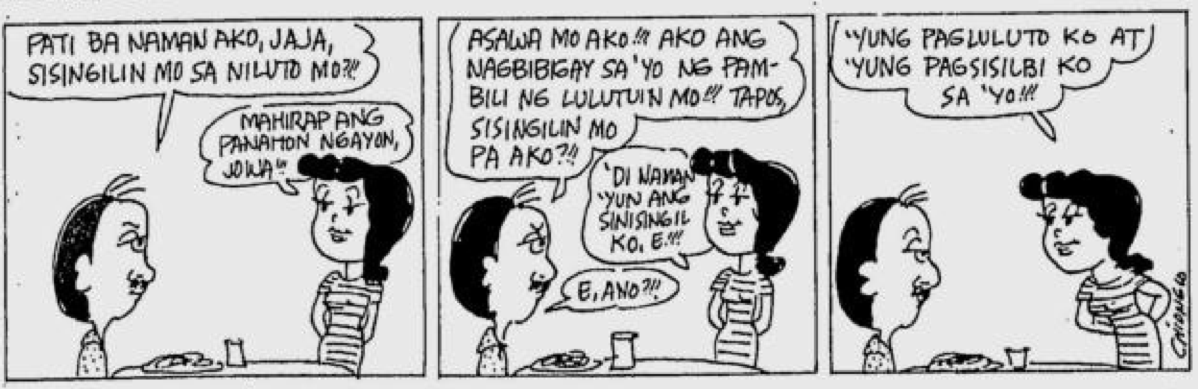
MUTTS
BY PATRICK McDONNELL


LITTLE PINK SOCK
LITTLE PINK SOCK
7-4

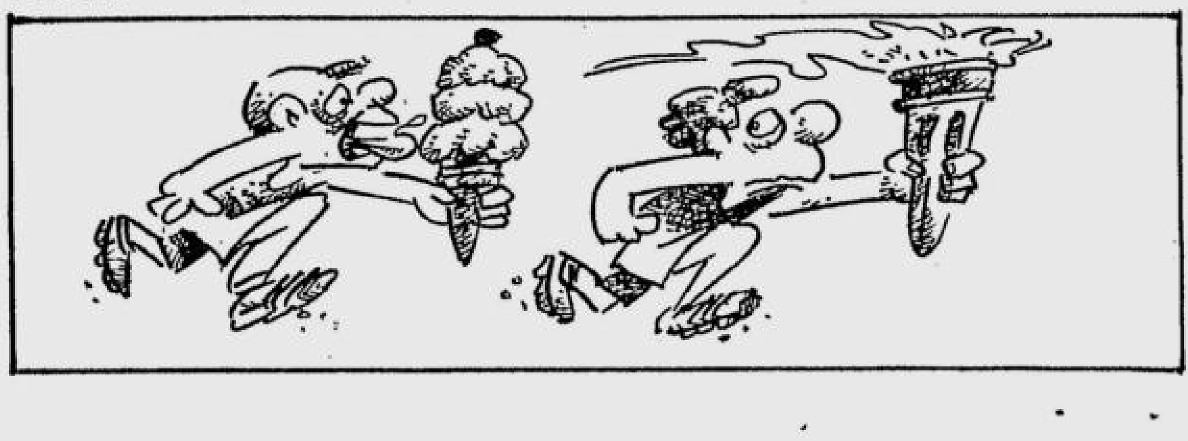
HI AND LOIS
BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


CHIP LEFT THE COMPUTER ON!
BROWNE
6-13
©2001 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
IT LOOKS LIKE A CODE!
WHOA! DO YOU THINK SOME-ONE IS TRYING TO COMMUNICATE WITH US!

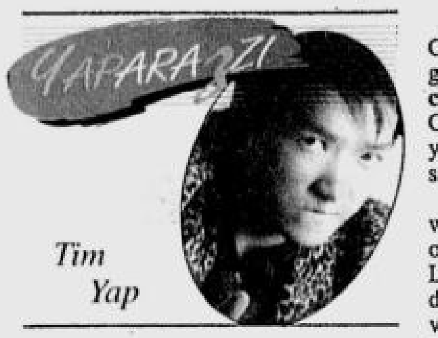
LOVEKNOTS
BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


PATI BA NAMAN AKO, JAJA, SISINGILIN MO SA NILUTO MO?!!
MAHIRAP ANG PANAHON NGAYON, JOWA!!
ASAWA MO AKO!!! AKO ANG NAGBIBIGAY SA'YO NG PAMBILI NG LULUTUIN MO!!! TAPOS, SISINGILIN MO PA AKO?!!
'DI NAMAN 'YUN ANG SINISINGIL KO, E!!!
E, ANO?!!
'YUNG PAGLULUTO KO AT 'YUNG PAGSISILBI KO SA 'YO!!!
CHIONGLO

TULDOK
BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING



'Pinoyorkers' as partyphiles



Tim Yap

I'M WEARING Islanders, now how Pinoy is that?" said New York fashion file **Ramon Padilla** with a hearty laugh, pointing to his navy blue rubber slippers paired with white pleated shirt he got from Zao, the stylish NYC haunt on Orchard Street.

"Everybody's white here! It's either that or all the Filipinos are late," whispered **Javi Rodriguez**, observing the predominantly "cosmopolitan" turnout at his sister **Yvette**'s birthday bash in a chic East Village loft.

"You should come to Manila, you'll love it there," I overheard Yvette say to her lawyer colleagues. An hour past midnight and all of a sudden the room was filled with Filipinos. The party invite said 10 p.m.

Hooking up with Pinoys has been a favorite pastime of mine whenever I visit the Big Apple. Pinoyorkers, as they have been baptized by bon vivant book publisher **Ronnie Alejandro**, are one diverse and spread-out lot.

Chill set

Within the two-and-a-half weeks I was there to shoot for Benetton's Spring 2002 campaign, the Pinoy magnet that I am, I would randomly see friends in the streets while shopping in Soho, dining in Midtown or clubbing in Chelsea. I even got to see former US **President Clinton**, shook his hands and took his photos, but that's another story.

At the Hudson bar, in between sips of Vodka Ice (the hot drink of the chill set, from lounges like Apt and Bungalow 8 to the Hamptons), I met up with good friend and actress **Giselle Toengi**, who is very happy with her life doing independent films in the US. Her boyfriend, **JM Lagdameo**, does financial work for Reuters. Top model **Dottie Benedicto** is now based there, too.

I joined JM, his brother **Cary** and **G** one weekend to chill at the Lagdameo weekend home in Jersey. After a whole week in frenetic New York, it's utterly fab to escape and have quiet friends and family time. G and friends sang by the piano, JM and Cary took care of the barbecue. Their American neighbors were talking about a Philippine phenomenon—texting.

Hot stores with Filipino flavor, aside from **Rafe Totengco**'s Soho bag shop, are Bahay Kubo at the meat-packing district and Sari Sari Store, opening next month at 111 West 72nd St. Top restaurants such as Tao Asian Bistro and Nobu, that Japanese restaurant frequented by New Yawk celebs and high stakers, are both headlined by young Filipino chefs—the sister-and-brother tandem of **Geraldine** and **Gilbert Pangilinan**.

Funky class picture

One night we met at this club called Spa and immediately Pinoy bonding transpired. Giselle managed to get all of us into the tight "velvet roped" dance venue, then we started to befriend everyone in sight before taking turns at peeping at the couple making out in the corner. Later, cameras popped out and the whole section of the club was posing à la funky class picture.

While we cannot deny that our country is in no great shape, people based in New York are also suffering from a recession, not to mention the crash of the Internet economy. Jobs are few and far between. Clubs have closed (Twilo is now auctioning its DJ's booth) and business is bad.

Still, nothing stops the intrepid Pinoy from pursuing what his heart desires. "I wanna do my best here to pave the way for other Filipino filmmakers," said New York-based Filipino director **Anton Esteban**, who is in his 20s.

GetAsia.com editor in chief **Chuck Syjuco** is leaving his post here to pursue his writing passions in the Big Apple. "I think it's time for me to move on... As they say, if you can make it there, you'll make it anywhere."

Stargazing with Madonna

Tonight at 6 p.m., expect a deluge of models at Dish, as the TAO (Talent Agents Organization) presents its "green book," a model compilation of the city's freshest faces. Also today, wear your Caribbean best at the roofdeck party of City Garden Hotel on Makati Avenue, the first boutique hotel in town. Heard good things about it—may be worth a try.

On Thursday, Aug 9 at 6 p.m., Candy magazine presents its first guest editor in chief, **KC Concepcion**, who is also this month's Candy cover girl, as she signs your Candy copy at the Human store at Robinsons Place Manila.

That same day, 9 p.m. onward, Venezia hosts the second of a series of the "Stargazing at Louie Y's," this time with Madonna's Bad Girl as theme. Invited to grace the event are several luminaries from the era of disco, among them scene creator and DJ icon **Wopsy Zamora**. Zamora's protégée, **Boyet Almazan**, with Venezia house DJs **Fernando** and **Mat**, spins original vinyl hits from the private collections of Louie Y, Zamora and Almazan.

On Friday, Robinsons Movieworld Galleria officially opens with a screening of "The Fast and the Furious."

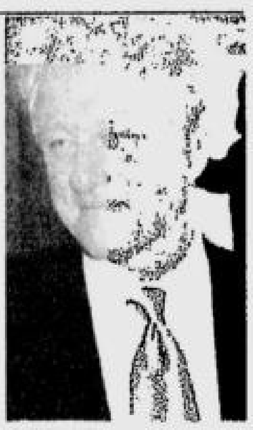
Atlantis Productions' "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" opens this weekend at the PCI Bank Theater. This Off-Broadway show is a smash hit in New York—it's now the most talked about movie in town. It is about a transvestite and how s/he discovers her/himself in relation to society. Now how Pinoy is that?

ONE of Manila's most eligible, Cary Lagdameo

GISELLE Toengi and JM Lagdameo

STYLE FILES. Ramon Padilla and Yvette Rodriguez

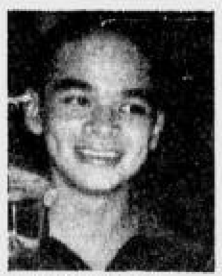
CHEF DU JOUR. Adine Pangilinan of Tao Asian Bistro



AT THE PRODUCERS. Former US President Clinton causes a stir.

GET New York, Chuck Syjuco

G SPOT. G Toengi and Dottie Benedicto



DAPPER Javi Rodriguez

JETSETTING Banana Cruz

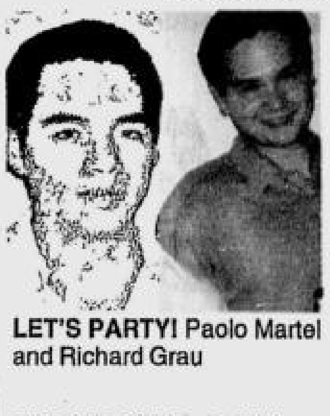
BROADWAY belle Char

FOR [illegible]

NEW YORK CHILL. Enzo Lim and young filmmaker Anton Esteban

PINOY BONDING. John Tanjangco, Kristine del Castillo and Boompy Martel

PHOTOS BY TIM YAP



LET'S PARTY! Paolo Martel and Richard Grau

PINOYORKERS. Publisher Ronnie Alejandro with Marya Colburn, erstwhile Broadway actress and Elvis Presley's leading lady

gtw
girls teens w
gears, trnds &
what hav u's
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CHILLING out in the generic T-shirt and jeans ensemble.

They say that clothes make a man. Or does a man make the clothes? A 2bU! correspondent explores the hallowed halls of UP Diliman to check out how the 'mga Iskolar ng Bayan' dress up for school

Oblation fashion: Maroons on the catwalk

TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY CATHERINE YOUNG
2bU! Correspondent

ONE thing that distinguishes the University of the Philippines from other schools is the fact that one gets to meet so many different kinds of people of various backgrounds. Because UP has no dress code, students can dress however they want, which reflects their culture, origin and lifestyle.

Style No. 1:The Guy/Girl-Next-Door

The clothes: As the style preferred by most students, the generic T-shirt-jeans-and-sneakers allows one to blend in the crowd. It's probably the most practical ensemble, especially when you commute and indulge in endless walks. And this is also good for student activists when they picket the Admi building. Plus, the pockets are practical for storing coins. This look is usually paired with backpacks or body bags.

Worn by: everyone from freshmen to post-grad students.

LEVITATING to a higher level of fashion.

THESE sneakers were made for walking.

Style No. 2: 100-percent *Laking* Maroon

The clothes: One glance and you'll know this person's from UP. He or she goes to class in a UP shirt, jeans/shorts and sandals. Everything is maroon—from the jacket to the bag to the socks.

PRACTICALITY rules this girl's wardrobe.

LOOKING for his place in this world.

Usually worn by: freshmen who are excited to have gotten into UP, and supporters of the UAAP games.

Style No. 3: The Hippie

The clothes: Whether it's grunge or punk, the creative in school stand out. They usually sport long hair tied with a bandanna and baggy tie-dyed or polo shirts, oversized jeans and sandals. Labeled as weird and unconventional, these people are in a class of their own.

Usually worn by: fine arts majors.

Style No. 4: The Fashionista

The clothes: He or she could pass for an Atenean or a La Sallian. Sleeveless top, designer pants or skirt, and dressy sandals for the girls; polo shirt, extra-flared pants, sneakers and baseball cap (the classic *porma* look) for the guys. Sometimes, it's a good idea to feel more feminine/masculine in an environment that feels like a unisex world.

Worn by: students from all colleges.

***

Top 10 accessories needed to survive in UP:

Wallet—filled with P1 and 25-centavo coins; a must-have for *Ikot* rides, payphones and photocopying fees.

Cellular phone—for emergency purposes; some students use it to keep themselves awake during those long drawn-out lectures.

Umbrella—the folding, 10-inch ones that can be stored in your bag

Form 5 and identification card—Students never, I mean **never**, leave home without it. These are needed in the Library, Registrar's Office, during the first day of class, even when taking a test.

ID pictures—for professors who need to memorize students' faces.

Oil absorbent paper or face towel—for the turbulent *Ikot* and *Toki* rides that leave your face oily and dirty.

Tissue—Restrooms don't have them.

Alcogel—Hygiene!

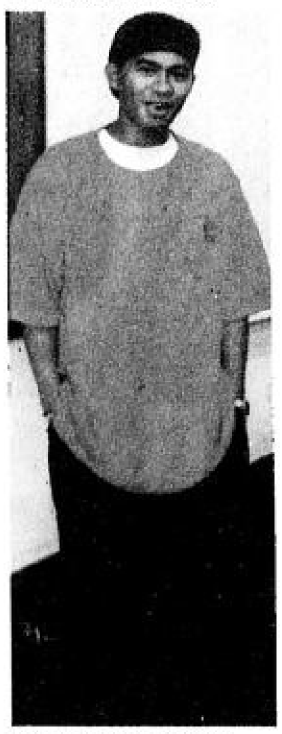
Watch—Most students set them 10-15 minutes in advance to be on time for class.

UP map—Especially for freshmen, the campus map guides you through the hectares and hectares of UP grounds. I used to wonder where the Sunken Garden was because all the gardens there are sunken anyway. The map tells you exactly where it is.

E-mail the author at unicorn@csi.com.ph

BOHEMIAN beauty

GIVE him a loyalty award.


YOU make me want to... UP's own Usher

IT'S FRIDAY THE 13TH. Watch out for Freddie... Aguilar!

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top ten ring tones

	SONG	ARTIST/COMPOSER	KEYWORD
1	THE ONLY WAY IS UP	YAZZ	TONE WAYISUP
2	WE DIDN'T START THE FIRE	BILLY JOEL	TONE WEDIDNTSTRT
3	HOT IN THE CITY	BILLY IDOL	TONE HOTCITY
4	ALL FOR YOU	JANET JACKSON	TONE ALLFORYO
5	SWEET CHILD OF MINE	GUNS 'N ROSES	TONE SWEETCHI
6	BREATHE	PRODIGY	TONE BREATHE
7	AGAINST ALL ODDS	WESTLIFE	TONE ALLODDS
8	BRAND NEW DAY	STING	TONE BRANDNEW
9	HEY JUDE	BEATLES	TONE HEYJUDE
10	LET IT BE	BEATLES	TONE LETITBE

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Mentors and masters

BY MARGOT C. TAN AND LESLIE ANN TAN
2bU! Correspondents

THEY'RE overworked and underpaid, overqualified and, at times, taken for granted. These are the true heroes of UP Diliman, whose dedication and principles make the university what it is. Some of these fine, fine people who make all the bull in the world worth taking are:

RAUL V. FABELLA
Dean, UP School of Economics (SE)

A seminarian as an undergraduate, he went on to finish his master's degree at the SE then got a Rockefeller Foundation grant for his doctorate at Yale University. He has been teaching at the UP SE since his return.

What changes have happened in the university in terms of students or policies?

In the last three years, the administration has been opening up to the rest of the world, as well as to ideas and to greater competition. The innate quality of the students coming to UP is still as high as before. [But] my personal feeling is that UP has actually failed the wonderful talents that come under its roof. I think the teaching quality of UP has deteriorated over the years but the current administration is trying to correct that. UP has become a victim of what is known as insane proliferation of programs and units. UP has, in the last 25 years, tried to be everything for everybody. But in a more competitive world, you have to choose your specialization, your niches, and do very well there.

Where do you see UP 10 years from now?

UP as an institution is beset with problems, the least of which is money. Still you can throw a lot of money to an institution but if the institution doesn't know how to use it, it's just going to be wasted. UP is currently living on its past glories. The future is bleaker so that UP has to select the areas where it wants to be. What is important is to be in areas where you are top.

What areas should UP focus on?

UP should be the model in science and mathematics, its primacy unquestioned in these areas. While there is a need for reconcentration, you cannot turn your back on liberal education. That is why the current administration wants to craft an excellent GE (General Education) program. You create people with competencies in math and science but with a solid foundation in liberal education. It is also important to be able to solve problems. [At the] SE, [this is a skill] we are trying to teach because that is what the world values.

What is the one thing you want your students to learn?

That there is no substitute for hard work. That hard work really pays. The belief that you can get away without working is still widespread [so] we want [our students to believe] in a meritocratic system here. We want the SE to be a window into the future of the Philippines. We want a student with firm ethical views and who will be feared but also respected.

RAUL C. PANGALANGAN
Dean, UP College of Law

He was chair of the College of Arts and Sciences Student Council and president of the Law Student Government. He received his master's degree and doctorate in international law from Harvard, winning the highest awards there. "I am actually the only Filipino to hold a doctorate in law from Harvard."

What do you love about law?

I like it because it helps me structure a debate in a very systematic way and to identify the constituents involved and their stake in a dispute. Maybe many debates in the Philippines are decided on the basis of economic power or physical power. But in law, you structure the debate in a way where you are forced to decide it on the basis of principle—I call it norms.

What is distinctive about taking law in UP?

UP pioneered the use of the case method in teaching law in the Philippines. The beauty of the case method is that the law is not seen as independent of concrete problems and actual cases.

What are you most proud of about law in UP?

You see those words written downstairs on the wall? The business of a law school is not just to teach law, but to teach law in the grand manner, and to produce great lawyers. Every person in this building swears by those words. We don't merely ask what the law is; we ask why it is that way. We don't merely say what the court decided; we ask why it decided that way.

What are you not so proud of?

The history of UP graduates and the role they played in Philippine democratic history. We have had a mixed record; the roles they played have not always been… that great. But I'm happy to see that recent alumni have increasingly turned to public service and public interest law. Some recent graduates even resigned from fancy Makati law firms to take low-paying jobs in government and public interest groups… For me it's amazing.

What mistakes have been made in Philippine law?

The blind imitation, application of foreign laws [particularly American] and the tendency to… be satisfied with the legal fictions of equality and democracy and power as a substitute for passion.

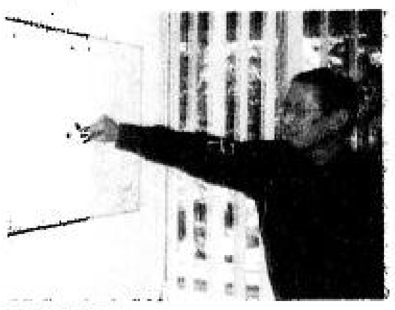
ELLEN J. PAGLINAUAN
Dean, UP College of Mass Communications

Born and grown in Legazpi City, she is a product of the public elementary school system. After spending her high school years with Benedictine nuns, she went to UP (BA Philippine Studies, cum laude). She took her master's in communication, major in radio-TV-film at the University of Michigan.

What are the distinctive features of UP Masscom?

Its programs offer the right mix of theory and practice, designed to prepare students to become competent, critical and socially responsible practitioners in the various communication and media professions.

What are your memorable experiences in UP?



FABELLA

The college received a bomb threat through the phone during the November 2000 mobilization against Erap. I got a call from a man [falsely] claiming to be General Calimlim, who threatened one of our more outspoken faculty members.

Why do you think people like to work in UP?

Because of its commitment to academic freedom and excellence, and to the role of the state university as social critic and agent of change. There's a lot of intellectual capital in the UP Diliman Republic. It is easier to teach students who represent the top 10 percent of the 65,000 or so Upcat examinees every year. Many students in UP who are intelligent, aware and critical.

What are the areas for improvement?

The perennial problem of insufficient budget resulting in inadequate facilities, equipment and classrooms; lack of materials for faculty and staff; an ever-increasing utilities bill and diminishing operations budget.

Where do you see Masscomm in 10 years?

Still a leading player in the training of students in the media and communication fields; a strong voice in advocacy movements for social transformation.

MAURICIA BORROMEO
Dean, UP College of Music

Though not professional musicians, her parents played musical instruments fairly well (mother, a science teacher, plays the piano; father, a physician, plays the violin). As they played, the children listened. She started piano lessons at age 5½, and grew up listening to classical music from her father's collection of half-inch-thick vinyl records on a hand-cranked Thomas Edison phonograph with a diamond stylus.

What is distinctive about taking music in UP?

We have a broad range of areas for study: performance (piano, voice, strings, winds, percussion, Asian music), composition, choral conducting, musicology (research) and music education. These are pursued with a strong foundation in music theory—Philippine, western and world music. Performing ensembles include Kalingga, Indonesian Gamelan, Symphonic Band, String Chamber Orchestra, Guitar Orchestra, Brass Quintet, Rondalla, Concert Chorus and Afro-Latin.

Who are the outstanding alumni and faculty of UP Music?

The roster for the National Artist for Music Award includes five UP alumni (Antonio Molina, Antonino Buenaventura, Lucio San Pedro, Felipe Padilla de Leon and Andrea Veneracion) and two faculty members (Jovita Fuentes and Jose Maceda).

Other alumni include Ryan Cayabyab, Raul Sunico, Jose Ma. Contreras and several others who have influenced music both here and abroad.

What are your significant/memorable experiences at UP?

Attending performances of world-class artists like Marian Anderson, Westminster Choir, Aurelio Estanislao and major musical events presented by the UP President's Committee on Culture and Arts.

Where do you see UP 10 years from now?

[Under the leadership of] president Nemenzo and Chancellor Roman, I can see the College of Music forging ahead as a leader in music creation, scholarship, performance and pedagogy in the Philippines and Southeast Asia.

What are your favorite pieces/compositions?

Music by Bach, Mozart, Debussy and Chopin; Philippine music and music of various world cultures.

BORROMEO

PAGLINAUAN

PANGALANGAN

Where 'bakla' and 'tomboy' are badges of honor

BY JASON DOPLITO
2bU! Correspondent

Out and out, these are gay days in Diliman, thanks to UP Babaylan

NOT too long ago, a writer for Forum, the UP administration's publication, said that one way to avoid getting harmed by frat men is to join UP Babaylan. *"At lalayuan ka [nila] na parang langaw."* This is how Ernest Lucas, president of the organization, recalls the insensitive remark. This may prove that there is still gender discrimination in the university, which many may find hard to believe. The school, after all, boasts of liberal and progressive thinking.

However, there is still a certain stigma attached to the word *babaylan*, as if it's something disgusting. Discriminatory comments against it are passed off as jokes, often in whispered voices.

"The problem here in UP is that you really wouldn't know if the students are in fact liberal-minded," Ernest notes. "They just remain silent for fear that if they speak against gay people, they won't be thought of as UP students since they're not open-minded. They only want to fit into that stereotype that if you're a UP student, you're liberal-minded."

It is with this idea that a group of gay men realized the need for UP students, particularly in Diliman, to be more gender-sensitive. In August 1992, they founded UP Babaylan, which advocates gay and lesbian rights.

Ancient priestesses

Just what is a *babaylan*? The word is a pre-Hispanic term referring to priestess. Together with the *datu*, the political leader, and the *panday*, the technology maker, the *babaylan* was also a leader who took care of the socio-cultural, as well as the religious, concerns of the people. When women for the job later became scarce, men took on the role. They wore women's clothes and acted effeminately to call on the spirits. "This is because people believe that the spirits respond more to the female," Jett "Meggan" Evangelista explains. "And so today, we take on this role of becoming social guardians by educating people on the importance of equality regardless of their status or condition."

Babaylan the group, however, also used to be an acronym for "Bakla ng Bayan Lumalaban," but this became inaccurate since lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered students became members of the organization, too.

Aside from being an advocacy group, the UP Babaylan is also a support group, especially for men and women who are still confused about their sexuality. It holds discussions on gender sensitivity, AIDS, and gay and lesbian issues. Meggan believes that having formed this organization, *"lumakas ang loob ng mga bakla na tumayo at manindigan para sa kanilang mga karapatan."*

He adds, "They have less to fear. Our group is here for them. We cater to their needs, and that is such a big help especially if you've never had your family and friends to support you all your life."

Today, Babaylan has about 70 members.

Need for maturity

People may think though that Babaylan is just a bunch of screaming faggots, like the gays often portrayed on local television. But that is hardly the case, especially when its members start talking about the need for maturity and open-mindedness.

"What we've created here is awareness," says Donita. "The fact that our group actually exists, people have become, more or less, educated on how diverse gay people can be. They were able to realize, by looking at the members in this org, that they're not the same; we're all different."

"Natakot na silang magsalita against gay people," Wilma Parrenas adds. "Also, *nalaman nila na hindi pala lahat mahahaba ang buhok. Hindi sila lahat nag-me-*makeup. *Hindi lahat gustong maging babae.* They've realized that we can also look like heterosexuals. That we only differ on sexual preference."

In fact, the officers and members themselves are sometimes surprised at the type of applicants they get. "They come in different waves," Ernest says. "There are times when the applicants are all *pa*-girl. *Tapos, may* wave *naman na lahat sila mga mukhang lalake. Minsan naman puro mukhang boksingero.* So *iba-iba talaga kami."* The point is that the org has a lot of members who don't "look" gay at all.

UP Babaylan doesn't require its members to be "out" or to make known their gender orientation. Ernest says that is necessary. *"Kahit na hindi siya* out *sa kaibigan niya,* okay *lang*. We don't even encourage him to do that. I think it's important for people to accept others even without knowing what their sexual preference is."

But then, he adds that this becomes a dilemma to the applicants who are still in the closet. This is because once you're associated with Babaylan, *"alam na bakla ka na."* Besides, the group believes that "out" is such a relative term. You could be out to your friends, but not to your family. Or you could be out in school but not in the corporate world. There are people who are out but have reservations. *"Yung mga 'disente' sa* perception *ng mga magulang nila,"* Wilma explains. *"Pag sa bahay tahimik lang sila.* They pretend to be not having sex."

Despite their diversity, however, members unite under one goal. "We do have some clashes of ideas, but we never take them personally," Panjee Ng says. "I think it's even healthy since we are able to synthesize our thoughts. We discuss all the issues, we form a consensus. We get to educate each other. And if the group has a united stand, you are still free to have your own opinion however different."

True enough, when asked for their views about certain issues, Ernest refuses to speak for the whole group. Instead, every member joins the discussion, each saying his two-cents' worth. On the issue of ROTC, for instance, some are in favor of abolishing it while others are for reforming it. However, they all see the need for the program to be more gender-sensitive.

No ill feelings

But what is most admirable in this group is that they don't harbor ill feelings toward the people who hate them. That is because Ernest believes they are all victims also; 300 hundred years of patriarchal rule by the religious have blinded them, affecting their perception even of their own selves.

"Kahit nga mga bakla na mismo, eh, iniisip nila na 'Masama ako. *Kasalanan ko ito kasi bakla ako, kaya binubugbog ako. Kasalanan ko ito sa Diyos.'* That is what's frightening when you're gay. *Na ikaw na mismong bakla, takot ka sa sarili mo. Idinukdok sa isipan mo, simula nung bata ka pa, na masama ang maging bakla,"* Ernest explains.

A small step is a giant leap

The organization, whose former president became university student council chair in 1997-1998, doesn't bask in its achievements. "We have been helping other UP units organize their own gay and lesbian organization," Ernest says. "And they've already got one in Los Baños and Manila." They emphasize though that they don't force other UP gay and lesbian groups to use the name Babaylan. Because of their common cause, they've all become friends, Ernest says.

"I feel that there is so much to do," he adds. "What we do can never be enough. Everyone won't be gender sensitive, at least not in our lifetime. But what we've done, as well as others before us, is that we've sown the seeds [of gender rights]." He expresses hope that the next generations will live in a more gay-friendly world.

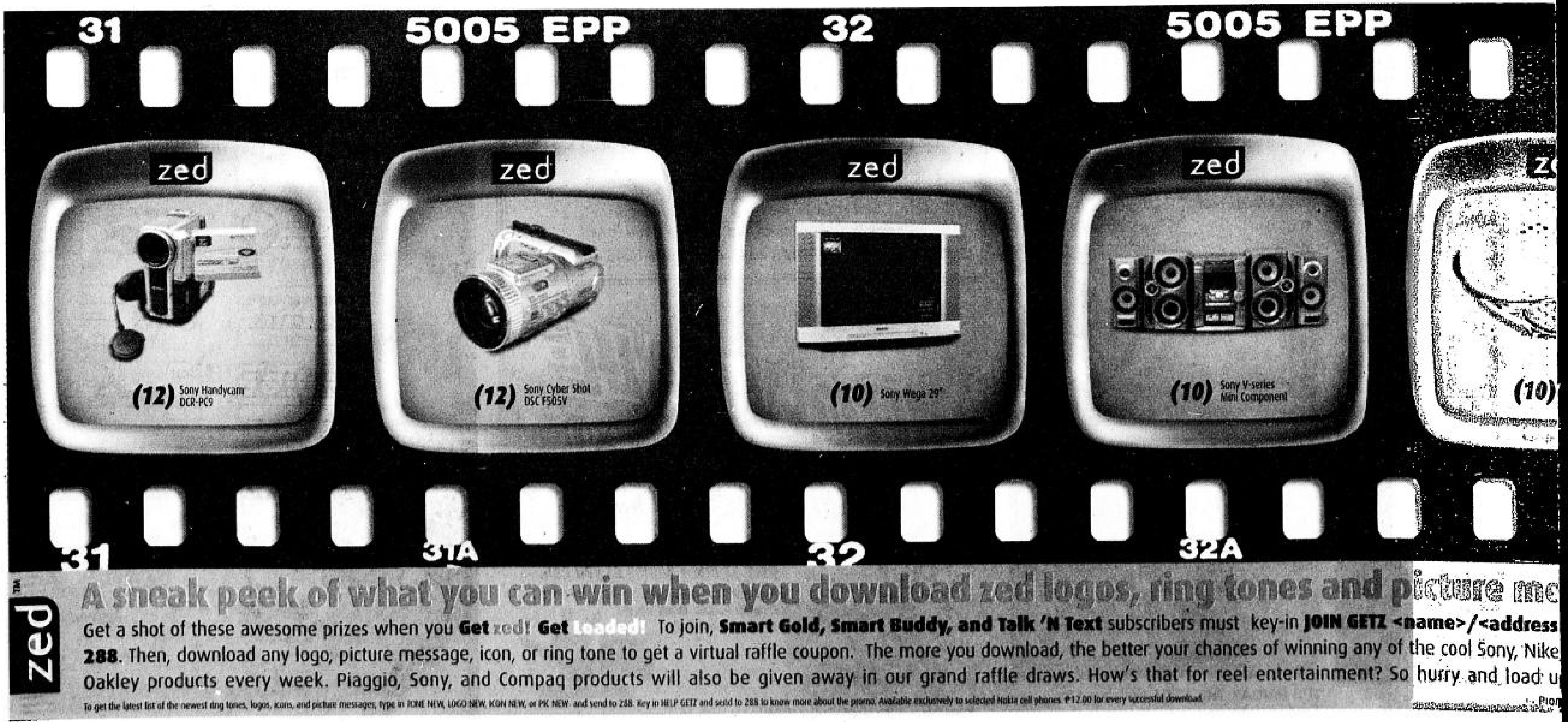
For Meggan, a gender-sensitive country maybe utopian. But like Ernest, he thinks that it's more important that they do their part in helping future gays live in a society without discrimination.

As if he were in a beauty contest, Donita stands up, his chin proud, as he declares: "The greatest measure of morality is to be one's self and not to judge others who are different from you."

Hopefully, people are open-minded enough to understand that.

UP Babaylan is accepting new members on Aug. 13-17 at the AS Walk. It will celebrate its anniversary on Aug. 24 with a show titled "Androgyny." Visit their tambayan at the left wing of Palma Hall for details.

E-mail the author at jason_2bu @yahoo.com



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From the frying pan into the fire

September Mahino & Carlos Garchitorena

DEAR Sep and Caloy,

Hi! I'm a second year college student taking up management information at a well-known computer school. I have this notion that among the country's schools, only the Big 3 (UP, DLSU, ADMU) stand out.

You see, I graduated from the UP high school. When I was taking entrance exams in various universities, my father suggested that I enroll in a course related to medicine. He always wanted me to become a doctor. He works in a drug distribution company and my mother is a pharmacist. But I don't like science! I would rather become an entrepreneur. In fact, I want to become a business tycoon someday.

But my parents managed to persuade me and I enrolled at DLSU's biology program. After three grueling terms, numerous failing grades and a feeling that my parents were very disappointed with my performance, I finally decided to transfer to another school.

But now that I'm in a school I believed would salve me from a bleak future, I suddenly realized I don't belong here. The environment simply doesn't suit me. I am inclined to believe that graduating from this school won't get me a decent job. So I have applied in a business school which I think will give me the training I need to excel in the career I plan to pursue later. Unfortunately, I failed the entrance exam. I am now waiting for a response to my request to the school's admission board for reconsideration.

I'm so confused and I don't know what to do. I feel like I have no direction in life. Right now, the thing that matters most to me is getting admitted to that school. But the fear of not making it looms over me. I've been so down lately and I would really appreciate your advice.

NOEL

I have a soft spot, a feeling of kinship with people like Noel. I have taken a road, one I chose and intend to follow to the end, or bleed my parents dry in the process.

Seriously, though, I want to be a musician. Not simply a musician, since I haven't even mastered simple scales. I want to publish my own music, derived from my own experiences, creativity and hard work. I might starve, sure. But when I finally hear myself on stage and the twang of my acoustic guitar is amplified over the loudspeakers, food won't be so important anymore. I would be full of myself by then, anyway.

If I were made to choose between apprenticing for a craft or skill versus being a lettered man, a college grad with B.S. following my name, the choice would not be very difficult. Some of the world's greatest industries were pioneered by men and women who knew how to apply the sciences in the field based on astute observation and simple logic in deduction.

Even in the present, very complex, convoluted and interconnected world where Consolidated Shoelaces Inc. can affect the price of livestock, there are still moments when finding one's niche in an industry can effect dramatic changes, like "make things work better." Efficiency, marketing and a general campaign for well-being like extra tartar sauce at the cafeteria line can be crucial in business and other related fields.

On the other hand, in a complex, convoluted and interconnected world that is spilling out into the bush and into marshlands with every entrepreneur creating a need for vintage shoelaces, we don't need another "business tycoon" in an oversized luxury vehicle to complain that squatters have reduced his land value by a quarter of a percent. But to be fair, we also don't need doctors who heal and mend for exorbitant fees. Nor do we need a family of mayors that think only they can serve the city, who stamp their initials on every signboard, government vehicle or canal grills. They should put their stamps on the foreheads of squatters they coddle to make the I.D. obsolete in the city.

Pray, Noel. For some with faith, I hear it works. Don't pray that you get what you want, though. Rather, pray that you'll want what you get.

CALOY

You know how your problem started? You didn't put your foot down when your father was ramming a medical career down your throat. It got worse when you became judgmental about the second school you entered. Why did you think that school's environment would not suit you? Because you were a La Sallean before? That's a whole lot of crap. People, don't magnify the notion that it's the Big 3 universities give you the good careers and good education.

You don't always get what you want in life. If they give you a lemon, make a lemonade; if the business school doesn't reconsider your application, then just do well in your present course in your present school. You really are lost, but jumping from school to school won't help. Give your school a chance. Not everyone has the chance to go to school.

SEP

Tale of a prodigal daughter

BY MOONCHILD
2bU! Correspondent

ALL through high school, I looked forward to college. I studied in the province and I had my heart set on Manila. It was either Ateneo de Manila University or the University of the Philippines.

To be perfectly honest, I was hell bent on going to the former. I was leading pretty much a sheltered life then, so I figured UP would be a little too much to handle for me. But lamebrain that I am, I neglected to apply for financial aid to the Ateneo and since Freshman Merit Scholarships then meant diddlysquat monetary-wise, I was forced to enroll in UP Diliman.

(Of course, I find out two years later that the Ateneo decided to give full tuition scholarships to their merit scholars. Really, I never understood how they could award me a "scholarship" and still insist I pay more or less P50,000 a year.)

I was a freshman for the school year 1998-1999. I've spent the last three years of my life in a love-hate relationship with the school I never really wanted to go to in the first place.

Awestruck 'promdi'

The moment I saw UP Diliman's campus, I was at a total loss for words. Coming from a backwoods city where everybody knows almost everybody else, the idea of being around all these nameless faces was a little too much. I wasn't sure how exactly I felt about it. To say I was overwhelmed would be an understatement.

There was the thrill of getting to go out and not having to worry about other people watching your every move. Back in our place, you couldn't even so much as hold a guy's hand without hearing stories about how *malandi* you were. Not that I wanted to hold any guy's hand in particular back then, but you do get the picture.

On the other hand, it scared me. There were too many people I feared I would get swallowed up in the crowd. I was going to be just another entity among thousands of others and I will never even be able to get to meet my college dean face to face. I was preparing myself to accept becoming just a statistic. And that I became.

Culture shock

"Umm... Why are these people making out in the open?"

"Huh? So what if there are Latin symbols on this bench?"

"Where the hell is our professor?!?"

"Is it just me or is that guy really walking around in his boxers?"

"Ohmigod! There are naked men running all over the building!!!"

Falling in love

Suddenly, just out of nowhere, everything made sense. It is all about freedom, academic and otherwise. I got all caught up in the predominant UP spirit—laid-back and self-assured.

People would just sit anywhere, relax and most would smoke a cigarette with a cup of coffee in the other hand. Professors wouldn't go to class because they would trust we would still do well without much supervision. Some would just show up in class to hand out homework and mention what chapters the next exam would be about and disappear for more than half the semester.

Everyone could wear whatever it was s/he felt like wearing at the moment because we realize there is more to people than their looks. Even the most stupid things like naked men running all around the Arts and Sciences building (giving out roses to females who pretend to be disgusted) began to mean something to me. This was the freedom I had been craving for all my life. I was free. I was in love.

Falling from grace

My grades were slipping. Cuts became more and more frequent. I always found something better to do, be it hanging out with friends or just staying at home and sleeping the day away. I got too caught up in it all. Somehow I managed to develop a superman complex wherein I believed I could do anything and get away with it. I was invincible. I was intelligent and a cut above the rest. After all, I was from the University of the Philippines.

At the same time, I began questioning life. Is this all there is to it? Do we go through all this just for a piece of lousy paper that says we went through four (or quite possibly more) years of trouble which would be the only way to qualify for a life of lavish comforts? What for... So I could have a good job that'll pay me enough money to make all my suffering worth it? So that when I have enough money, I can finally consider myself a success and die happy?

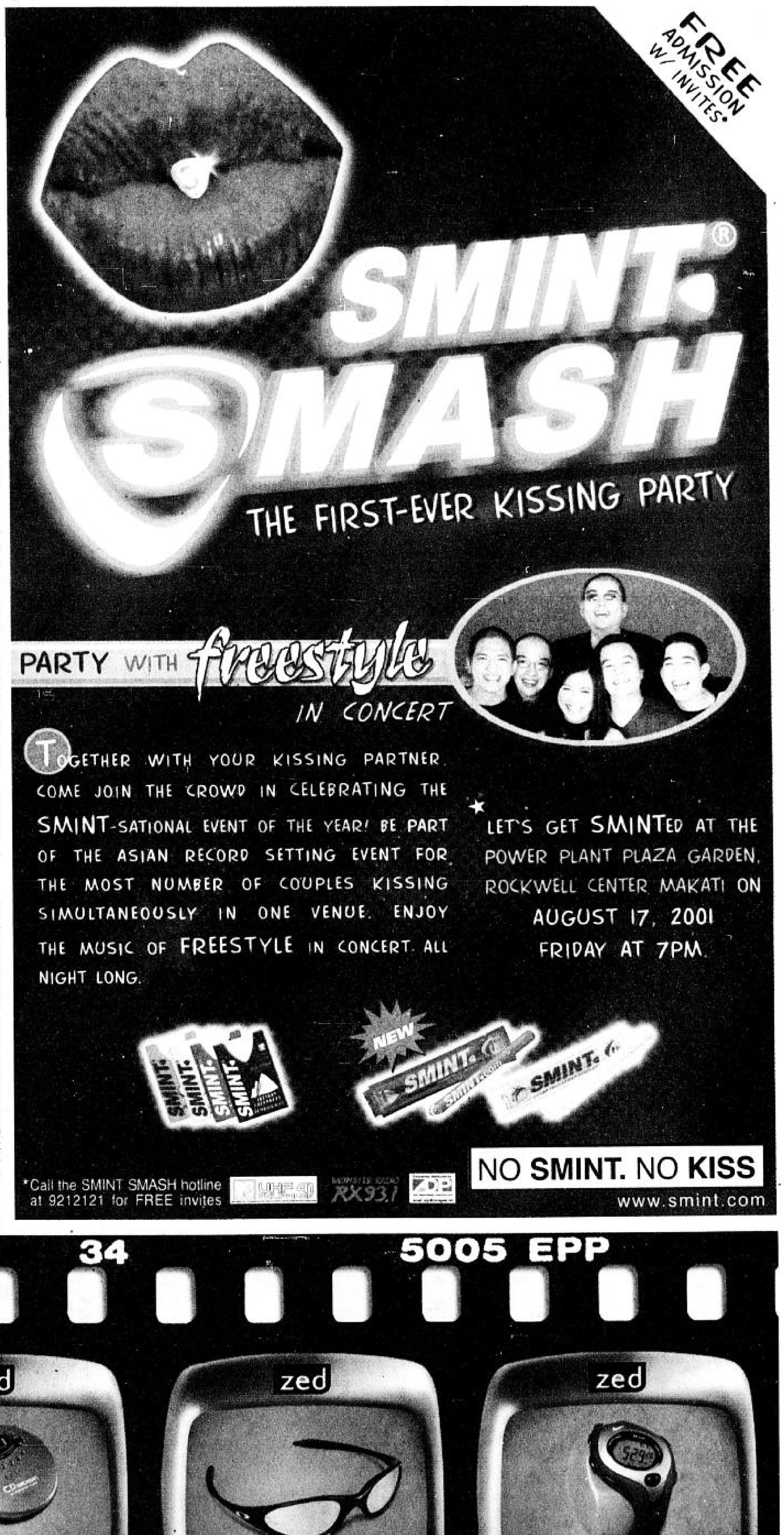
UP has this nasty habit of making one think. There is so much freedom that thoughts are left uncensored and actions are less uninhibited. There is no norm and we all go our own ways. In most cases, this would prove to be a good thing. I took a wrong turn somewhere, somehow.

Pay for what you get

I am currently on a self-imposed hiatus from UP this year. I've decided to work and try to figure things out on my own. Somehow, with all that thinking and obsessing, I lost myself along the way. I will eventually go back to school. I do realize that, as sad as it may be, my capabilities will never get me anywhere without that much-needed degree. I may have the abilities for landing better jobs than the one I have now, but that missing diploma handicaps me.

Next school year, if things work out as planned, I will be back with a vengeance. As much as being in the University of the Philippines has turned my life upside-down, I love it there. That was where I first opened my eyes to the world. Blurry as my vision might have been once, I'm starting to see things clearly now. There are some things that just have to be done. And I can't think of a better place to do them than where I was inspired to think in the first place. No other university could possibly open anyone this much. Someday soon, UP's prodigal daughter will return.

E-mail the author at wildrain@edsamail.com.ph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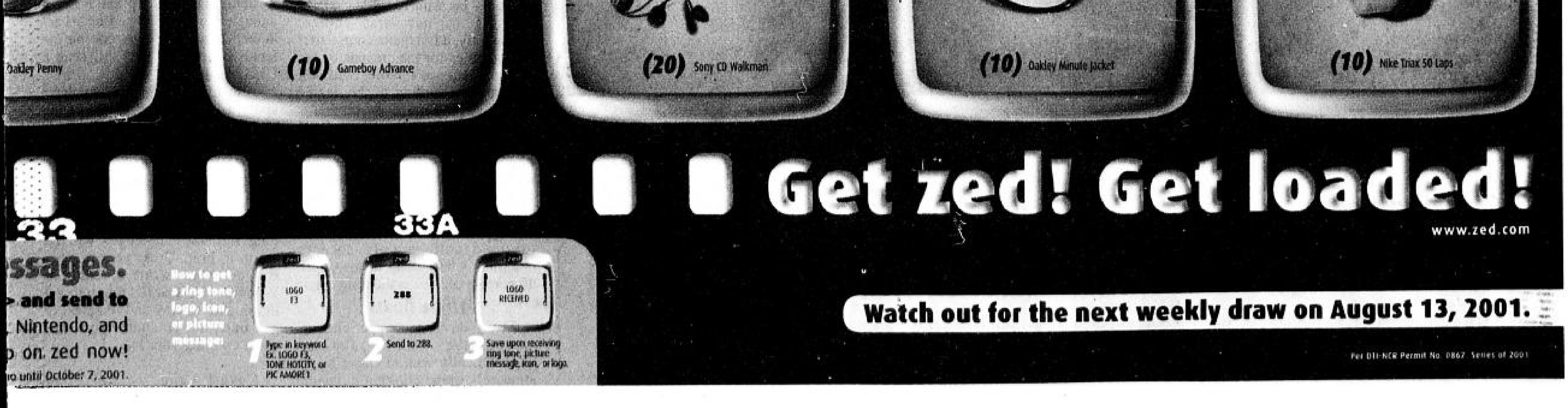

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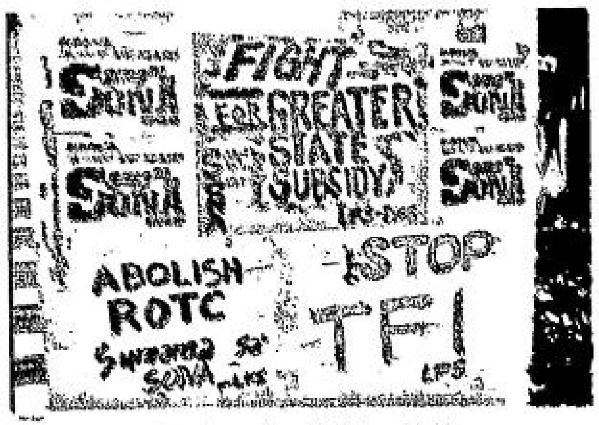
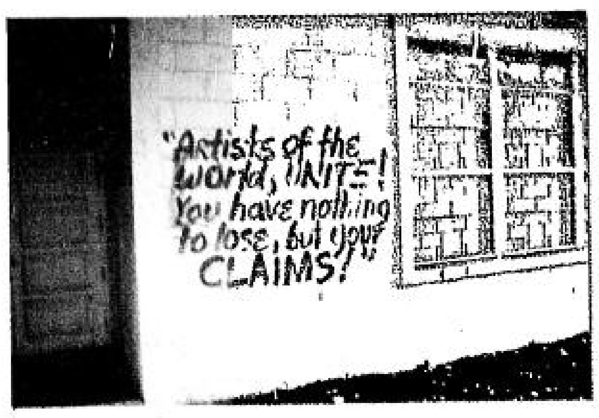


COLLEGE of Engineering (Melchor Hall)


"Artists of the world, UNITE! You have nothing to lose, but your CLAIMS!"
COLLEGE of Fine Arts (Bartlett Hall)

ALBERT Hall

UP Lagoon

UP graffiti: On vandalism and street art

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY CATHERINE YOUNG
2bU! Correspondent, UP Diliman

I'M one of those people who, after using a bathroom, would read the graffiti scrawled on the walls. After two months in UP, I've seen plenty—not only in the bathrooms but also on the outside of the buildings, on the streets, even on trees. While some are really considered as vandalism, others are part of some block or organization's street painting activity. Whatever the reason, regardless of the aesthetic appeal (or sometimes lack thereof), they've always been something worth a second look. Below are some of the more memorable, if not visible, writings on the wall.

ALONG Sunken Garden

The bathroom chain letters

The ladies' room on the third floor of the Math Building will remain one of the most, uh, memorable bathrooms I've ever entered. Apparently, when someone writes on the wall, another C.R. user writes a reply (sometimes to correct the grammar), and so on. It's like a bloody chain letter, and while it is most probably to the administration's consternation that students choose to do other things in the bathroom other than answer the call of nature, it is quite interesting to think about the psychology behind the minds at work. I mean, where else can a girl hang up her "dirty laundry" for everyone to read? But all things considered, they are a virtual eyesore—might as well just post something on Pinoycentral and leave the walls alone.

The tree of hearts

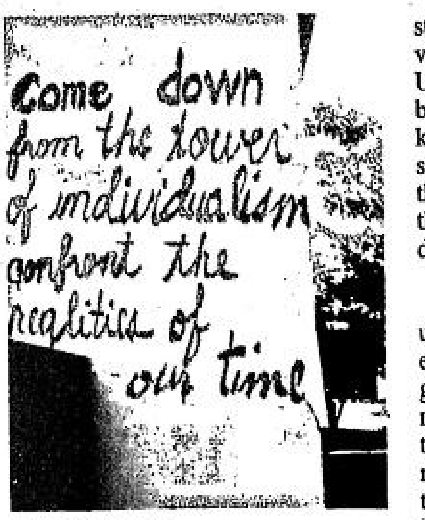
I've heard of many kinds of vandalism, but who ever thought of vandalizing a plant? I first came upon this tree last summer. It's located at the Lagoon, just across the Film Center. You know how some couples would scratch their initials on the trunk? Well, this one had the heart painted red with the words "For Life." Kind of cheesy—okay, really cheesy—but cute nonetheless.

'*Sumama sa* Sona'

You know you're in UP when you see these signs: Stop tuition fee increase! Abolish ROTC! *Sumama sa* Sona! If you don't, then you're in some kind of parallel universe where student activism is unheard of. This is the school where rallies are commonplace and students fight for their causes. If you want to take a crash course in UP politics, these glaring signs would give you an introduction on the many political parties and much-debated issues.

Kalsada Louvre

This is one good reason to choose to walk in UP. The streets (usually around the Sunken Garden) are aesthetically painted, representing student organizations and blocks. It's virtually a gallery that reflects the UP culture. It's also a good way for blocks and organizations to get to know each other. Some of them are so good, in fact, that it seems a shame that cars and feet would trod upon them, taking some of the paint off in due time.


Come down from the tower of individualism confront the realities of our time
ALBERT Hall

BLOCK street painting,AS walk

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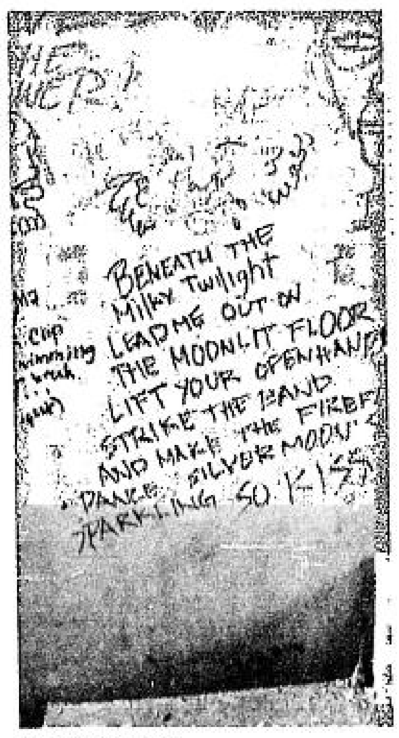
Whether professing one's undying (?) love or declaring one's existence in UP, all these do guarantee that students are heard, if not read, by many. And although the vandalism part is against school rules, it does make one realize the things the students care about beyond their studies—like friendship, love and even social issues. And hey, UP isn't UP without its students' assertiveness.


BENEATH THE MILKY TWILIGHT LEAD ME OUT ON THE MOONLIT FLOOR LIFT YOUR OPEN HAND STRIKE THE BAND AND MAKE THE FIREF DANCE SILVER MOON'S SPARKLING SO KISS
ALBERT Hall

Getting a grip after the Upcat

BY MILAN RUSTIA
2bU! Correspondent

RELIEF was hardly seen on Clarence's face. Clarence was one of the 70, 000 students who took the Upcat less than 72 hours ago. She now agonizes over the seven-month wait for the release of the list of qualified freshmen.

A tall order

Clarence has reasons to be uncertain. Last year, a total of 64,848 took the Upcat. How many exactly were accepted at UP? Only around 18 percent. UP Diliman can accommodate roughly only 3,000 freshmen for the 67 available programs in the campus. For quota courses, say for instance in engineering or business administration, they can only accept around 70 freshmen.

Chosen few

Applicants are accepted based on their UPG (UP Predicted Grade.) UPG is the combination of the Upcat scores (60 percent) and the weighted average of final grades in the first three years of high school (40 percent). Dr. Ly SyCip, director of the UP Office of Admissions said that, "in order to qualify, you must do well on both. Being in the upper 20 percent of your graduating class does not guarantee you a spot."

A cut above the rest

Since UP Manila is renowned in the field of Medicine, Clarence who wants to be a nurse, indicated BS Nursing as her first choice. Apparently, it is a quota course so if she qualifies for the campus of her choice, Clarence's scores will still be ranked according to the degree program's predictor. Some programs have their own "predictor." Her UPG and predicted grades in certain areas like Science or Math might seal her fate. Colleges such as the College of Nursing require applicants to pass an interview or an aptitude test. Bent on taking only the cream of the crop, the said college only accepts qualifiers who belong to the upper 40 percent of their graduating class.

Hope floats

For Clarence, to be chosen among the 70,000 and to hypothetically win an Oscar bring almost the same cringing moment. They have the same dynamics. At times like this, Julia Roberts disclosed in a David Letterman interview that, "it would be best to hope but expect to remain seated." Clarence couldn't agree more.

But unlike in the Academy where your fortune lies entirely on the whims of judges, there are other ways to become an Iskolar ng Bayan even if you would not meet the cut-off UPG of a particular campus.

Aside from Diliman and Manila, scour through the other campuses like Los Baños, Baguio, San Fernando, Cebu, Iloilo, Tacloban and Mindanao. Different campuses set different cut-off rates. Find out if they still have available slots. There are no guarantees but it would be helpful to check out the Campus Registrar's Offices.

Mozarts, Picassos and those who exude brilliance in Music, Fine Arts or Theater Arts can avail of the non-baccalaureate programs that may not require Upcat qualification. But keep in mind that you'll have to showcase your exceptional talent during the screening tests.

Also, UP keeps a keen eye not just on athletes who reap local and international sporting awards but on champions who are willing to be trained and later on represent the university in the UAAP (University Athletic Association of the Philippines) competitions. If you have what it takes, the VAAS (Varsity Athletic Admission System) may be an option. It is not enough though that you're a basketball hotshot or a gazelle on the tennis court. You will still need a UPG of 2.8 or higher

And of course, you may later apply as a transferee. Some of the units you'd earn after enrolling for a year in another campus or in another university may be credited.

Some trek!

The whole admission process is a rugged terrain to trek but in the long run, the challenges will be worth it. Pray. Cross your fingers. But take this word of caution: Whoever said that it's tough to get in, tougher to stay and toughest to get out and graduate from UP wasn't pulling your leg.

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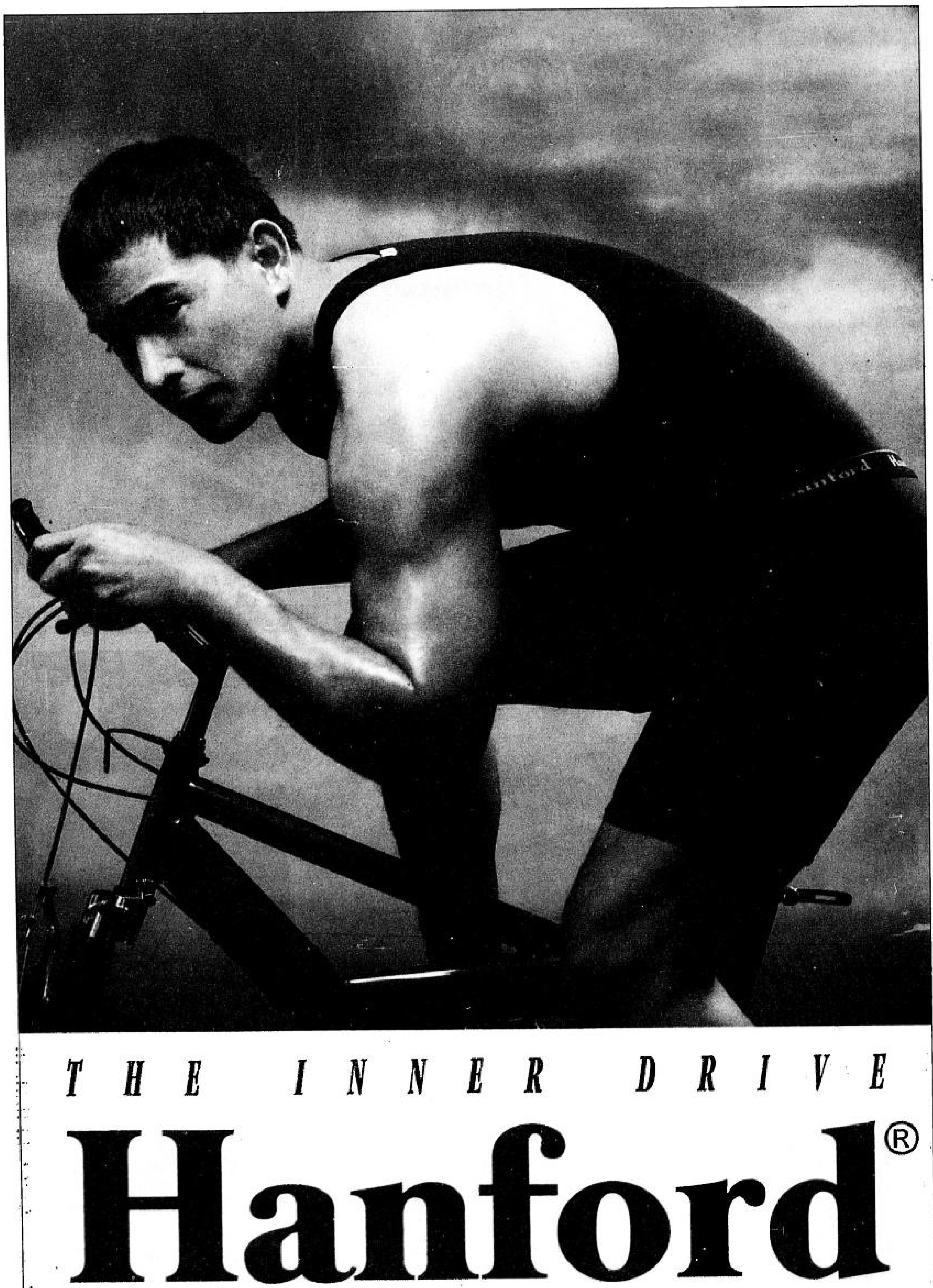
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